

Chiefs aim to reduce spending on clean-up of camps

# TRAVELLER SITES' BINS TO CUT COSTS

Report by Craig Hughes

**LARGE bins could be provided on traveller-hit sites in Walsall to save the cash-strapped council tens of thousands of pounds in clear-up costs.**

Walsall Council is looking at placing the large wheeled bins, known as euro bins, on illegal camp sites to encourage occupants not to dump mess.

Travellers have already cost the cash-strapped council more than £15,000 this year in clean-ups and managing the sites.

Blakenall Councillor Pete Smith has led calls for the council to put the bins out once informed about an illegal settlement.

He believes it would cost around £13 to pick up and dispose of one of the bins. Council leader Mike Bird confirmed the authority would now look at the option. He said: "It is a step forward, the cost is really minimal in relation to the benefits that occur."

"It will be discussed at our next meeting with senior officers."

Councillor Smith said: "Once a site is occupied by a traveller encampment, environmental health enforcement should attend with licensing enforcement."

## Engage

"Once the size of the camp has been established, environmental health enforcement should engage with the travelling group and arrange for a euro bin, or a suitable number of bins to be delivered to the site for any domestic waste to be deposited in during their stay."

The borough has been plagued by traveller camps since the spring with more than a dozen caravans at a time settling on some locations for days at a time. Locations have included Goscote Lodge Crescent, Delves Common and Broadway West Playing Fields.

In some cases vans have been on the same site on more than one occasion.

A person carrying a gun and geese going missing were among more than 100 complaints made about a group of travellers on land between Stubbers Green Road and Lichfield Road, near Shelfield, earlier this year.

In a bid to reduce the problem of caravans settling on land illegally the council is looking at creating almost 30 permanent sites over the next few years. But residents who would be affected by some of the proposed locations are up in arms, and have joined forces against plans to use the old Darlaston Multi-Purpose Centre site. It comes after homeowners near Broad Lane Gardens, Bloxwich – identified as a possible site by the local authority – announced they had also started a petition.

## BEACON SHINES FOR 80 YEARS OF RAMBLING ON



Ramblers from across the Black Country at Barr Beacon in Walsall who have taken part in a ramble to mark the association's 80th anniversary

It is the national group that formed 80 years ago in the wake of a walk which turned into a ruck in the Peak District – but things were a little more serene as dozens of Black Country walkers commemorated the 80th anniversary of the Ramblers Association.

Around 62 members from groups in Walsall, Sandwell and Wolverhampton gathered at Barr Beacon war memorial in Walsall for a 7.5mile walk – the fitting way to mark an historic occasion.

They set off around 11am on Saturday and had lunch next to Aldridge Airport before

returning around 4pm, just in time to take shelter before heavy rain and thunderstorms took hold.

Dick Turton, aged 63 and chairman of Walsall Ramblers, said: "It was very successful, I must admit I was surprised by how many people turned up."

The movement has been officially recognised since the forming of the National Council of Ramblers' Federations in 1931 to recognise the interests of walkers.

But the following year a group who had become frustrated with the body staged a mass

trespass of Kinder Scout – the highest point in the Peak District – where they clashed with the Duke of Devonshire's gamekeepers and five ramblers were arrested.

The council then changed its name to Ramblers Association in 1935.

Mr Turton pointed out the benefits of rambling: "People like to see the countryside. You can get a lot closer to it on foot than in a car. And obviously there are the health benefits, there is also the social side to it. But I think for a few people it is nice for them to be led by someone who knows where they are going."

## NHS

### Health trust gripes double in a month

THE number of formal complaints received by the NHS Trust which runs Walsall Manor Hospital more than doubled in the space of a month, a new report has revealed.

Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust received 51 formal complaints in July – up from 22 in June. They included patients who were not happy with their operation and complaints over delayed appointments. Others pointed out issues with scans and one patient claimed there had been a breach of confidentiality. There were also complaints about district nursing and staff attitudes.

## EDUCATION

### Deadline set for opening of hub

THE multi-million pound business and sports hub at Walsall College will officially launch on September 26, bosses have revealed.

Work on the £11million complex next to the main town centre Wisemore Campus last summer and has been forging ahead since then.

The futuristic 39,000sq ft development will include space for start-up businesses, conference and event facilities along with a multi-purpose sports hall.

## COUNCIL

### Jobs promise after care home backed

A CARE home is to open in a former residential property after being given the go-ahead by council planners. The scheme for Abingdon Way, Bloxwich, has been approved by Walsall Council and will create new jobs. It will cater for a small number of people with learning disabilities.

It will see a revamp of the building interior to suit the new use. The home will aim to support residents who have suffered head injuries or illness which can lead to damage to the brain. It will also cater for people who may have issues such as eating disorder, self-harm and behavioural problems.

## INSIDE

### IT'S ALL KICKING OFF FOR LADIES



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# Mile of smiles for Phebe, aged five



Phebe Lowe, aged five, of Bloxwich

A YOUNG girl aged five has made a splash among her friends after swimming for an entire mile – despite suffering from asthma.

Phebe Lowe, from Walsall, is being tipped by her mother of a star of the future after completing 70 lengths at Sneyd pool in under an hour.

The youngster, of Pooles Lane in Bloxwich, has already declared she wants to be a professional swimmer in the future.

Mother Kelly Pullinger got her into swimming properly aged three and since then there has been no stopping her. “I just wanted her to swim 25 metres, I think every child should be able to do that for her own safety,” she said. “But she just carried on and on and has progressed from there.

“She did 600metres when she was four and her instructor then said she wanted her to try 1,000 which she did.

“Now she has done the mile, I said to her after ‘are you tired?’ and her answer was ‘no it was easy’.

“She would carry on if I let her.

“I think she must be one of the youngest children in the country to have swam a mile.

“I have looked on the internet and I can’t see anyone else who has done it.”

Phebe, who will be six in September, is just about to start her first proper year at Woodlands Academy.

She has done swimming lessons with her school friends.

Miss Pullinger said: “I have had to go in to the school and say that she doesn’t need to wear arm bands be-

cause she is a little rocket.

“Some of the other children are there crying when they are put in the water and Phebe says to me ‘why are they so upset for?’ because she has been doing it since she was three.”

She added: “She just loves it she has always loved the water.

“I have taken always taken her in the pool ever since she was six months.

“It is good for her asthma because it exercises her lungs.

“We were all just over the moon when she did the mile.

“She has already said she wants to win medals and that’s what she wants to do when she’s older.

“Her friends and family are just so pleased we will just support her with whatever she wants to do.”

# Four hurt after cars collide off main road

A TEENAGER and two women were taken to hospital after a two-car smash in Walsall. One of the cars was left severely damaged after the crash in Yew Tree Place, off Lichfield Road, Bloxwich.

West Midlands Ambulance Service was called to treat a driver, an 18-year-old man, who suffered neck pain and an arm laceration. He was treated at the scene by medics and taken to Walsall Manor Hospital.

Three people travelling in the second car suffered minor injuries including two women in the vehicle were taken to the same hospital. The ambulance service said those involved in the collision had been fortunate to escape serious injury.

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman John Hawker said: “One vehicle had suffered substantial damage. The driver, an 18-year-old man, suffered neck pain, and an arm laceration.

“He received treatment at the scene from medics and was transferred to Walsall Manor Hospital for further treatment. Three people travelling in the second car suffered multiple minor injuries. A woman in her 80s and a second woman in her 40s, both suffered chest pain. Both received treatment and were transferred to the same hospital. The man travelling in the second vehicle, believed to be in his 60s, declined treatment from paramedics.

“Considering the damage to the vehicles the occupants were fortunate not to have suffered more serious injuries.”

The crash happened at around 4.20pm on Sunday.

# Double trouble for fire crews

AN elderly man’s kitchen went up in flames while he slept, and a blaze broke out in a garage as crews were called to two fires within minutes in Walsall.

The first occurred around 4pm when flames broke out in a garage on Blakenhall Lane. A man had been doing some DIY with a grinder tool when sparks set fire to flammable material.

Two crews, one from Walsall and another from Bloxwich, attended and the flames were put out within 15 minutes.

Shortly after firefighters were alerted to another incident when an elderly man living in a first-floor flat in Green Lane fell asleep while leaving food cooking on the stove.

Residents raised the alarm around 4.30pm and again a crew from Walsall and another from Bloxwich attended.

# Weeks of delays on way for motorists

MOTORISTS will face weeks of disruption during gas main works in Brownhills next month. It takes place in Ogley Road and motorists will not be able to turn right into the street from September 7-25 during the project on behalf of National Grid Gas.

# Highgate Brewery site may give way to homes

## Odds-on winners in style stakes



Sasha Hamilton, Natasha Cannings, Dominique Larkin, Sinead Killoch, Nikola May, Rachel Turner, Kylie Molloy, Wendy Morris, Louise Farrell, all from Great Barr, enjoy the fun at Wolverhampton Racecourse’s Ladies Night

THIS group of stylish ladies from Walsall were dressed up to the nines for a night out at the races during one of the Black Country’s biggest social events of the year.

Natasha Cannings, a 28-year-old insurance claims handler from Great Barr, enjoyed Ladies Night at Wolverhampton Racecourse with eight friends who were celebrating the birthday of one of their troupe, Nikola May.

The event is an annual fixture at the racecourse in which stylish ladies are encouraged to don their best attire, with awards up for ‘best dressed lady’ and ‘best hat’.

Natasha said: “It was the first time any of us had been

to an evening like this and it was something very different from going to a nightclub. Everybody was dressed up and I won £20, so we will definitely be doing it again.”

Natalie Evans, a 28-year-old hairdresser from Tipton was another on her first visit to the event, said: “We had a few winners and all enjoyed ourselves enormously. We will certainly be coming back.”

Sallyann Hunter was on to a real winner when she decided to make a 500-mile round trip from her Scottish home to attend. The 44-year-old from Blackwood, Lankshire scooped the award for the best dressed lady.

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# Lighting up support for hospice at fundraiser

A NURSE from Acorns Children's Hospice is appealing for people to let their support shine through at the return of a fundraising event.

Back for a second year, the Acorns Lantern Walk is set to light up Walsall Arboretum on November 28 as hundreds of walkers set off on a sponsored walk to raise money for children and young people cared for by the charity. Each carrying a glowing lantern, participants will turn the Arboretum into a sea of orange as they take part in a family fun day of music and entertainment before the walk, which will be a choice of either a 5km or 12km stroll.

Acorns offers a network of specialist palliative care and support for babies, children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions and support for their families across the West Midlands.

Neil Evans, who works as a specialist children's nurse at Acorns in Walsall, called on local people to make a difference and sign up for the event. He said: "The majority of our work is funded by the generous support of fundraisers at events like the Lantern Walk."

"Money raised through sponsorship from this event means that nurses like me can provide the specialist one-to-one care for life-limited and life-threatened children and support for their families which is so vital."

To sign up for Acorns Lantern Walk visit [www.acorns.org.uk/shine-together](http://www.acorns.org.uk/shine-together) contact events@acorns.org.uk or 01564 825037.

# College starts teacher course

WALSALL College has launched a new foundation degree course in partnership with the University of Worcester to help budding early years teachers achieve their ambition of working in education.

The foundation degree in early years is a two-year part-time course and following successful completion, students can progress onto an honours degree programme or initial teacher training at university.

The qualification focuses primarily on the skills and knowledge required to work with children from birth to five years and their families in a wide variety of contexts.

Visit [www.walsallcollege.ac.uk/foundation-degree-in-early-years](http://www.walsallcollege.ac.uk/foundation-degree-in-early-years) for more information.

# Ramblers' trek to the country

THE Walsall group of the ramblers will be heading to The Malverns in Worcestershire for a nine mile walk on Sunday. For more information, call 01922 451856 or visit [www.walsallramblers.co.uk](http://www.walsallramblers.co.uk)

# Canals offering a different path



Making most use of the canals

Miles of canal footpaths can play a major role in the West Midlands' transport plans, according to the head of the organisation that looks after the waterways in the region.

Opening them up to cyclists and walkers would help improve the transport infrastructure, said Peter Mathews, chairman of the Canal & River Trust's Partnership in the West Midlands.

The trust safeguards 350km of waterways in the West Midlands as well as caring for a large collection of listed structures and many important wild-

life sites. Mr Mathews said: "We do need to create more awareness of the canal network in the West Midlands and with £6 million from the Department for Transport we have a scheme in place to transform access to the canals for thousands of people."

"This is a huge task because parts of the canal network are over 250 years old. However, we can make them better places for leisure as well as linking with organisations and businesses to make them safer and more attractive places for all of our different users."

"We are working closely with Sustrans, the sustainable transport charity who have a base in Birmingham, to achieve our aspirations to encourage people to walk and cycle more as a starting point for reducing motor traffic."

Yvonne Gilligan, regional director of Sustrans, has been appointed to the Trust's West Midlands Partnership. She said: "More and more people in Birmingham see cycling and walking as a way to travel to and from work and we must ensure that their routes are safe and useable."

# Borough pupils make the grade with GCSEs

WALSALL saw some excellent results for students after the GCSE grades were released last week.

More than 20 per cent of youngsters from Aldridge School landed at least three A\* or A grades, while 10 students achieved 10 or more A\* or As.

The number who achieved A\*-C in English/Maths topped 60 per cent.

Headteacher David Mountney said: "The GCSE results once again demonstrate the school's commitment to achieving excellence together."

"These are a pleasing set of results given the radical government changes to the exam system, which has impacted on all Year 11 students."

Meanwhile, Brownhills School saw an increase in overall grades and significantly improved pass rates in many departments.

There was a stand-out performer at the Q3 Academy in Great Barr.

Lewis Bradbury scored seven A grades and four Bs during a year when he also landed medals in a number of international karate competitions.

Also, there was a truly outstanding performer at The Friary School over in Lichfield, where Ella Sykes received A\* grades in all 11 of the GCSEs she took.

## Increase

GCSE pass rates were up across the Black Country and Staffordshire as more than two thirds of exams were marked with the top A\*-C grades.

A total of 521,931 GCSEs were taken in the West Midlands this year - 5.4 per cent of which were awarded A\* and 13 per cent an A.

There was a slight increase in the number of exams graded between A\*-C, the 66.9 per cent figures marking a rise of 0.2 per cent on 2014.

But the number of GCSEs graded at either A\* or A fell by 0.3 per cent this year.

In Sandwell, council bosses hailed 'some great results' at schools across the borough.



From left, Taylor Harris, Georgie Hodgkiss, Thando Sibenke, James Simpson, at Brownhills School

Results improved for the third year running at Ormiston Forge Academy, Cradley Heath, where students achieved a 51 per cent pass rate at A\*-C, including English and maths.

Two years ago this figure was 44 per cent and last year it was 47 per cent.

Principal Andrew Burns said: "I'm delighted with the results this year, above all they show we are making consistent progress and building on solid foundations."

Gurjivan Singh was the stand-out performer with 12 A\* grades and a B.

At Sandwell Academy, students achieved 81 per cent A\*-C grades, with 85 per cent gaining an A\* -C grade in

maths. All students achieved at least one A\*-C qualification, with 89 per cent achieving five or more. Headteacher Simon Topper said: "Students have once again achieved some fabulous GCSE outcomes this year."

"I am thrilled with the collective performance of this cohort and congratulate all the students on their achievement and the hard work and dedication shown."

In Wolverhampton, Moseley Park School in Bilston continued its remarkable rate of improvement, with 78 per cent of students achieving at least five A\*-C grades, including English and maths. Four years ago the

figure was just 40 per cent. Delighted headteacher Nick Elwiss said: "The school motto is 'Building Success Together', and it is through working in close partnership with students, parents and governors we have achieved this success."

At Wolverhampton Girls' High School, 79 per cent of all entries were awarded A or A\*, while 70 per cent of students achieved eight or more A\* or A grades.

Headteacher Trudi Young said she was 'incredibly proud' of all students. "The results are testament to the hard work and dedication shown by the girls," she added.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### More parks set to get outdoor gyms

NEW outdoor gyms will be created around parks in Walsall as part of £75,000 plans being drawn up.

Walsall Council has earmarked Leamore Park, Pleck Park and King George V Playing Field for where the investment is to be made. The work is subject to the allocation of funding but has been highlighted as a project to be explored by the authority as part of future improvements.

The first outdoor gym in the borough was opened at Reedswood Park in 2011 to encourage people to remain fit and healthily active.

### 700 parking bays needed at centre

MORE than 700 extra short-stay parking spaces are needed in Walsall town centre, according to council chiefs.

A review of car parks has been carried out by the authority as part of an action plan to improve the borough.

Bosses have already highlighted the potential for a multi-storey car park on land in Hatherton Street or Day Street. They say there is a need for 726 additional short-stay public spaces within the heart of the borough.

There are currently more than 3,500 publicly available parking spaces provided in Walsall town centre.

### Offices scheme for empty shop

A LONG-STANDING empty shop and maisonettes in Beechdale will be converted into offices, after plans were approved by the council.

Plans from Beechdale Community Housing to take over new space in Stephenson Square to make room for 25 workers have been backed. A shop which has been vacant for more than 10 years and four upstairs maisonettes will be revamped in the scheme.

A report said that additional parking will be provided.

### Mopeds crackdown at town beauty spot

MOPEDS are being driven around a beauty spot in Brownhills and canal towpaths - sparking a crackdown from police.

Police are stepping up patrols at Clayhanger Common in a bid to tackle anti-social behaviour in the area.

Sgt Lee Nicholls, from the Brownhills neighbourhood team, said: "Vehicles are not allowed to be driven on canal tow paths or common land. Anyone found doing so will have their vehicle seized."

### Steam gala is due

THE annual summer gala of steam and diesel locomotives is being held at Chasewater Railway next weekend.

The event runs from 10am to 5pm on both days on the railway that runs through Chasewater Country Park, Burntwood. Four engines will be in steam each day.

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



PHEW, what a relief. The 70th anniversary of VJ-Day and the end of the Second World War passed off without hundreds of veterans and civilians being blown to pieces by Islamist terrorists. As you may recall, before last weekend's events it was widely reported that shadowy home-grown bombers, inspired by Islamic State, were planning to plant a bomb on the route. As one tabloid put it: "Bomb plot:The extremists aim to strike on Saturday by exploding a deadly pressure cooker bomb during events in Central London." Thankfully, this dastardly plot was foiled. Just like the one to blow up a North Sea oil rig, fly a private plane into Canary Wharf, smear deadly ricin poison on cars and massacre shoppers in an English shopping mall. If you believe such reports, usually based on unnamed "intelligence sources," terrorist plots are foiled day after day. Now, it may be that our spooks and anti-terror cops are the finest plot-foilers in the world. But it sometimes strikes me as strange that very few burglaries, usually committed by thick-head, drug-addled teenagers, are ever foiled and they are rarely solved. Yet plots plotted by the biggest and best-funded terrorist organisations in history are foiled time after time. It is, to put it mildly, odd.

ISN'T it odd, the things that can start a row? Charlie Dimmock, the TV gardener, merely suggests some allotments are too big for the average couple to manage. She is howled down for her "random thought" by the National Allotments Society which points out that the common 300 square yard allotment, dating back to Victorian times, is specifically designed to feed a family of four for a year. This size is apparently sacred and inviolable. Why? Many allotment holders are retired or have no family. Some find the full-size allotment too much to cope with. Others are desperate for any scrap of land. I bet all over England thousands of allotments are already informally divided between friends and relations. All Dimmock is suggesting is that when some allotments become vacant, they should be divided into four to see what the demand is. The reaction from the allotments establishment proves again that nothing matters more to the English than their hobbies.

WELL done, the security staff at Dublin Airport who confiscated a three-year-old boy's plastic toy on the grounds that it had a trigger and looked a bit like a weapon. In truth, it didn't look anything like a weapon. But this £25 "Fart Blaster" which emits noisy bursts of electronic raspberries, looked exactly like the sort of device a three-year-old could use to make a damn nuisance of himself throughout the flight. The word "security" may have been misused on this occasion but anything that saves passengers from noisy, over-indulged children is fine by me.

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Saddlers stars score with society



Rico Henry and Paul Downing are with Rebecca Clews, of West Bromwich

SADDLERS supporters met some of their heroes after helping to raise more than £10,000 for the club. Defensive duo Rico Henry and Paul Downing paid a visit to the West Bromwich Building Society in Walsall town centre. Walsall FC has benefited from £10,822 in proceeds as part of the Saddlers Super Saver account set up for fans.

The money will be used by the

club to support its youth development programme.

The players were on hand to receive the cheque at the Walsall branch of the West Brom in Bridge Street. The pair also held a meet and greet with customers and Saddlers fans. Stefan Gamble, chief executive of Walsall FC, said: "We pass on our heartfelt thanks to the West Brom for their continued sup-

port through the Saddlers Super Saver affinity account. It's a fantastic scheme which benefits both Walsall fans and the club and the money donated by the West Brom will make a huge difference."

Lorraine Standing, manager of West Brom's Walsall branch, said: "Having Rico and Paul in the branch created a great buzz for both staff and our customers."

# Jail for man who hit his girlfriend with bottle

A FATHER who hit a former girlfriend with a champagne bottle, causing her to need stitches in her lip, has been jailed for more than a year.

Azar Hussain got into an argument with the victim after they had been drinking, which ended with her being struck by the bottle.

She was taken to Walsall Manor Hospital and could end up with permanent scarring, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. The 22 year-old of Proffitt Close, Walsall, admitted wounding on May 11 and was sentenced to 14 months in jail.

Mr Paul Mytton, prosecuting, said they had been travelling in a car driven by a mutual friend when it was said they started bickering after drinking. Mr Mytton said the driver claimed in a statement the woman slapped Hussain first and he tried to slap her back.

The altercation ended with Hussain swinging the bottle which hit her causing the injury. Mr Mytton said: "She was taken to Walsall Manor where it was confirmed she had a deep laceration to the upper lip."

Hussain, who has previous convictions for battery initially denied any involvement in the incident in the car park of Morrisons in Lichfield Street, Walsall. But he pleaded guilty to wounding at his first appearance before the court. The victim said she did not want a restraining order issued.

Mr Oliver Woolhouse, defending, said there had been an element of provocation but his client accepted the cause of his actions.

## Views sought on bin collections

THOUSANDS of Walsall households are being asked for their views on how a move to alternate weekly household waste collections should work.

In a bid to make savings of £82 million over the next four years, Walsall Council approved a move to alternate weekly household waste collections and is now consulting on how it might operate.

The proposal centres around emptying household waste bins every other week.

Councillor Louise Harrison, Walsall Council's portfolio holder for clean and green, said: "We want the residents' input into how the service should meet their needs."

It can also be completed online at [www.walsallbins.co.uk/waste\\_consultation\\_2015](http://www.walsallbins.co.uk/waste_consultation_2015) by September 30.

## Boxers lining up for Banks's night

AMATEUR boxers will be packing a punch for a dinner show this autumn.

There will be a minimum of eight bouts at the event at Walsall FC on October 8. Tickets for evening at the Bank's Stadium in Bescot Crescent are £32 – call 01922 651416.

By Craig Hughes

**WALSALL Town Hall is set for a £1 million revamp to transform it into a major concert and wedding venue.**

Bosses want to overhaul facilities at the site to attract big-name acts, while also using it to host family events.

The Leicester Street building opened in 1902 but has been left behind in recent years by venues such as the Civic Hall in Wolverhampton.

Walsall Council leader Mike Bird said any revamp could be worth up to £1m.

He said: "We are certainly looking to invest in the toilets and the bar which doesn't give you a welcoming experience.

"There are a lot of weddings, which would use the town hall, and we can put on concerts there too."

Bands that performed at the Walsall Town Hall in the 1960s and 70s include Slade, Led Zeppelin and Black Sabbath.

It then went three decades before its next major gig when indie rockers Reverend and the Makers performed in 2012 drawing in around 700 people. It was the last major concert featuring current acts.

The venue does host the likes of the Walsall Beer Festival, which attracts thousands of people over its annual three-day stretch, live boxing and organ recitals. The organ itself was built in 1908 by Walsall company Nicholson and Lord and has more than 3,300 pipes.

The building has been highlighted as a key location in the town along with Walsall New Art Gallery, Gala Baths, Walsall Leather Museum, and main library. An action plan for the town hall says it needs to be promoted as a venue for events and concerts.

It adds: "The town centre offers an accessible location to provide a wide variety of facilities for the community and to draw visitors from a wider area."

"It is important that these facilities are, where possible, enhanced and protected."

## Nathan's special delivery for contest



At last! singing postman Nathan Farrell has won the Open Mic International competition representing the UK

IT'S the end of an era for Walsall's Singing Postman, who really delivered in an international competition and is about to start his dream career.

Nathan Farrell, who made fans while carrying out his morning rounds, represented the UK in the grand final of the Open Mic International competition, where he was crowned International Singer 2015.

With a recording contract and £10,000 prize money in his pocket, the 27-year-old father-of-three from Bloxwich is now looking forward to beginning a new career as a singer around the globe.

"It's all a blur at the minute," he said. "I've tried for years and years and I've travelled all over the country – to finally reach that milestone that I've always dreamed

of is amazing. Being global, I'm going to be reaching new levels. I'm going to be learning new things and meeting new people." Although he's not certain that he'll be permanently leaving his day job, Nathan knows he'll be dropping The Singing Postman name that he's been using for three years.

He said: "It makes me sad that I won't be The Singing Postman anymore. It's changed my life. I never really told anybody about my singing until The Express & Star came to record a video of me for YouTube. They called me the Singing Postman and I've used it ever since."

After winning the competition, organiser Big Break Promotions UK threw Nathan a party in Fishley Park, Pelsall.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Car park lined up for change

A TOWN centre car park is being lined up for office use or retail development under regeneration plans in Walsall.

The Day Street site has been identified as suitable for investment as part of an action plan drawn up by the council.

It has also been highlighted as a reserve location for a new multi-storey if moves to put one on land at the Challenge block fails to go-ahead.

Otherwise the Day Street location is being earmarked for office or retail development.

Awards success joy for college

CELEBRATIONS have been held at Walsall College after it picked up a special award. The college has been announced as the overall institution of the year at the first ever Learner Voice Practitioner Awards for its outstanding commitment in allowing youngsters to have a voice and using it to make a difference.

The college picked up the award at a ceremony, which took place at London Metropolitan University earlier this month. Walsall College was also presented with the Midlands Region Institute of the Year award.

£10m boost for Manor planned

MORE than £10 million will be ploughed into improvements at Walsall Manor this year, health chiefs have said.

Bosses at Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust have put together a capital budget of £10.3m for this financial year. The main part of the investment will be £5m towards the planned new critical care unit at the Manor.

The intensive care facility has already been earmarked for the West Wing main entrance.

Stones yobs patrols pledge by police

POLICE have stepped up patrols following reports that youths have been throwing stones at windows and causing damage to wing mirrors on cars in Walsall Wood.

Sgt Mari Amos said: "There have been some sporadic complaints from about groups of youths acting in an anti-social manner. Officers continue to include key locations in their patrols including Oak Park and will deal robustly with any persons seen behaving in an anti-social manner."

Temporary lights

MOTORISTS will face delays on a main route during sewer connection works starting tomorrow, Friday.

It takes place along Broadway North, near the junction of Charlotte Street, from Friday until September 1. Temporary traffic signals will be in place from 7pm.

Temporary staff bill at college up by £60,000

THE wage bill of temporary workers at Walsall College has risen by more than £60,000 in the past 12 months.

Around £180,000 was spent at the town's main college during the 2014-15 academic year to meet the demand of students.

This compared to £120,000 on agency workers the previous year, with the college saying there had been a 'significant growth' in some subjects such as construction and social care.

The expenditure on extra workers at the education hub, which caters for more than 7,500 students, includes teaching and support staff. The costs have been released under the Freedom of Information Act.

A statement from the college said: "Walsall College prides itself on its outstanding Ofsted rating, awarded for our success in delivering first class education and training to students with qualified lecturers with industry experience."

"At times it is necessary and standard procedure to utilise agency staff to respond to a specific skills need. "In the 2014/15 academic year we experienced significant growth in a number of curriculum areas including construction, plumbing, gas and health and social care, with more students enrolling on to our courses. "Students are at the heart of everything we do and we are committed to ensuring they are able to acquire real world experience, commercial awareness and the knowledge and skills to be job ready as well as gain qualifications."

Stallholders in rush for market

SCORES of stalls have already snapped up for the new-look Darlaston Market – a month before it opens.

There has been strong interest in the relaunch of the market on September 14 – four years after it was scrapped due to Walsall Council cuts.

It is hoped the number of traders could exceed 30 by the time of the launch, with around half already booked weeks ahead of the event.

It is being taken on by private operators Bescot Promotions who also run the successful weekly pitch outside Walsall FC every Sunday.

It will run three days a week on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. The previous council event was scrapped in 2011 to save £60,000 over three years.

Surgery homes scheme halted

PLANS to transform a former doctor's surgery in Willenhall into apartments have been axed. The surgery in Stroud Avenue shut around 10 years ago, proposals for a 12-bed residential property have been withdrawn.

Strum things never change for brothers



Paul, left, and Gerry Mahoney

THEY have not seen each other for 15 years but now two musical brothers have reunited – and will perform a series of gigs together.

Gerry Mahoney, from Walsall, said it was 'very emotional' to see brother Paul after his younger sibling had fled in from Australia where he has lived for 40 years.

And it wasn't long before the pair started jamming together and started deciding what songs they were going to play throughout the borough out of a combined repertoire of more than 200 tunes.

But despite the good times ahead it was worrying circumstances that brought the brothers together after father-of-one Gerry, 63, was diagnosed with bowel cancer last December. Paul, 58, wanted to come straight over from Down Under where he teaches aboriginal children English through the use of music, but his big brother told him to wait. But now, after five weeks of intensive treatment Gerry is on the mend.

He said: "It's so far so good. I told Paul not to bother coming sooner because with the chemotherapy and

radiotherapy I was out of commission really.

"It was very emotional to see Paul again. We have got over that initial couple of meetings now and it is far more relaxed. The pair will play at The Victoria also known as The Kats on Lower Rushall Street on Wednesday before The White Lion in Caldmore the following day.

Then a week Thursday they will perform at The Tap & Tanner on Darwall Street in the town centre. The pair hope to play as many venues as possible during the next three weeks.

European recruits for Manor hailed success

THE recruitment of nurses from Europe to increase staff numbers at Walsall Manor Hospital has been hailed a success.

A total of 85 registered nurses have been recruited of which 36 have come from abroad such as Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Croatia and Romania.

Some have started work and all are expected to be on the wards by next month.

The arrival of the new nurses has been backed by health chiefs and recruits themselves. Sofia Fiouni, has left her native Greece to come to the Black Country and said she couldn't be happier with the direction her career has taken.

The 28 year-old used to work in a public hospital on the ITU ward. "I discussed this with the doctor at my hospital who was really supportive. I had always wanted to come to England and started to seriously look at my options. I decided that I would leave and look at jobs in England.

"I visited Walsall and tried to get a real feel for the place. The people were very friendly and welcoming and I really liked them. I thought it seemed a good place to be and that's why I decided to come to Walsall to work."

Interaction

Her arrival is part of a £3.5m investment by Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust.

Sofia, who is based on Ward 16, added: "I love the interaction with patients which I sadly didn't have on ITU back at home because of people's conditions. It has made me think that I'd like to specialise in mental health or in dementia for example. I feel I am making progress and gaining more skills and I'm glad I made the move here.

"My mother didn't fully understand why I would want to leave my job in Greece but I speak to her regularly and I think she can see it has been a good move. The patients have been very nice to me. I have explained where I come from when they ask me where my accent is from and they have been interested and want to chat to me about it.

"My colleagues are helping me too. It will probably take me a little while to get used to the Walsall accent but I'll get there."

Wendy Lear, head of nursing in Walsall, said: "I am really pleased with everyone that we have recruited and look forward to positive feedback from colleagues and patients alike."



Comedian Jonny Cole gets in training for his charity wrestling match against world female wrestling champ, Marie Kristin Gabert, with Big Tim

No joke as Jonny grapples with task

A COMEDIAN has begun his preparations as the countdown to his charity bout against one of the world's top female wrestlers ticks down.

Jonny Cole will take on the World Female Wrestling Champion Marie Kristin Gabert – better known as Alpha Female – next month to raise vital funds for Women's Aid.

And the comedian is sure to be up for a tough night with the muscle bound German grappler weighing in at nearly 200lb.

And on Saturday the comedian, who hails from Wednesbury, took to Hedgesford's Chase Enterprise Park to get a full feel for what his coming his way with a training session against another wrestler Luke Douton.

The event takes place on September 11 at the Copthorne Hotel in Dudley. It also features live music from The Ronaldos, a stand-up show from Mr Cole, food, and a disco until 1am.

For individual or group tickets email [jonnycolemusic@gmail.com](mailto:jonnycolemusic@gmail.com) or [www.wegottickets.com](http://www.wegottickets.com)

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money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole."

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding

area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. "The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people



I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated."

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



# What's the attraction with music festivals?

A MAN claims to have paid £3 to register his sat-nav as a Labour supporter in order to vote in the forthcoming leadership contest. Apparently the device is struggling to decide, sometimes favouring Corbyn in Northants, sometimes Kendal in the Lake District, and occasionally Burnham-on-Sea.

INCIDENTALLY, Jeremy Corbyn is the younger brother of renowned meteorologist Piers Corbyn, who says man-made global warming is a myth. He says the planet stopped warming some years ago, and that trend is unlikely to be reversed any time soon. Music to most motorists' ears, I would have thought. Perhaps it's just me, but it sounds like they're chosen the wrong brother again.

SO, that's it from V Festival for another year, with only 1,000 people needing medical treatment, and just 78 ambulances called out.

What is the attraction with these events? Whatever makes an otherwise normal person pay through the nose to watch the likes of Tom Jones from a muddy field during a thunderstorm after sitting in traffic for hours on end, washing their hair with talcum powder and sleeping in a tiny tent?

Each to their own, and there is nothing wrong with a passion for music. I just can't see what is wrong with seeing it in a concert hall or stadium. And having a wash before the performance.

PATRICK MacNee, George Cole, and now Stephen Lewis, three towering figures of British television are no longer with us. Of course, they will all live on. The Avengers, Minder and On The Buses all continue to pull in viewers on the nostalgia channels for many years to come, emphasising just how little quality television is actually made today.

Isn't it depressing that while the technology and special effects have come on in leaps and bounds, we no longer seem able to make a light-hearted action adventure series which doesn't require an interest in psychology, we can't make an underworld crime drama which doesn't involve gratuitous violence, and nobody is able to come up with a sitcom about everyday working-class life that simply makes us laugh?

These days everything has to have an agenda, and the budget seems to be spent on everything but the scriptwriters.

Maybe we should remember that while MacNee, Cole and Lewis are the names we remember, it was Brian Clemens, Leon Griffiths, Ronald Chesney and Ronald Wolfe who were the real forces behind our favourite programmes. The role of the producer and scriptwriter is very under-rated.



Lenny Henry with his mum and family at home in Dudley



Sir Lenny at Henry Court with Caroline Reid



The comedian cuts a cake to mark Henry Court's 10 years

# No place like home as Sir Lenny returns

Sir Lenny Henry was back in his hometown of Dudley for the premiere of his new TV drama. CLARE BUTLER met him

## THERE'S no place like home for Sir Lenny.

His beaming smile showed his joy at being back in the Black Country.

Everyone knows the larger-than-life comic and television personality as a stand up, actor and the face of Comic Relief. But in Dudley, he is just Lenny.

The 56-year-old father was full of life as he arrived in his hometown for the screening of his self-penned television drama Danny and the Human Zoo.

But before hitting the red carpet for the glamorous premiere, he took a walk a down memory lane.

He visited Henry Court retirement housing – named in memory of his mother Winifred – to help mark its 10th anniversary, a decade after he opened it.

His smile lit up the room as he had residents and managers howling of laughter, swapping between a comedic Jamaican and Dudley accent.

## Banter

Ever the comic Lenny had the room in the palm of his hand as he treated guests to gags with his razor-sharp wit.

Putting everyone at ease he even included invited guests in the fun as he encouraged the room to join in.

Joking in the first opening lines of his speech he said: "It's very nice to be back at Henry Court and to see that they've put the Hoover around! I bet they thought 'Ooh we've got the Mayor coming, better tidy up!'"

Lenny continued to banter with mayor of Dudley, Councillor Steve Waltho, even commenting on the amount of bling in the building as he sported his mayoral chains and the paper his speech was written on, saying 'where's the iPad Steve!'

In fits of laughter Councillor Waltho added:



Sir Lenny unveils a plaque at the centre named in honour of his late mother

"I think I'm going to have to throw my speech out the window!"

"I get a lot of people asking me whether I get nervous doing speeches and meeting people, but never have I been in the presence of global superstar before like Sir Lenny."

"Let me just say what a privilege it is for us to be here today and to welcome back someone who has come from very humble beginnings." Sir Lenny was the first child Winifred Henry had after moving to Britain from Jamaica. He was raised by Winifred and her husband Winston Henry, who died when the comedian was 19. Winifred died in 1998.

Growing up in Douglas Road near Buffery Park, Sir Lenny has gone on to global stardom. But his thoughts are never too far from home.

"Whenever I go out and about I always try to represent Dudley and put a few lines in about the town on my stand-up shows," he

said. "Although it gets a bad name sometimes, it's really not a bad place. On my way to get here driving down the high street I thought, there's some great people here."

"I actually came back to Henry Court to film my show Lenny's Britain a few years ago, and this place represented Dudley in such a good light."

"I helped out in the kitchen and went round to see some of the residents and had a right laugh – one man couldn't hear me because of his hearing aid settings, so we were shouting at each other for a bit."

"But I also remember a lot of very happy people, eating Caribbean food sitting and chatting away and telling stories of yesterday."

Henry Court is one of the association's six retirement schemes. Sir Lenny opened the retirement housing scheme 10 years ago. It was named in honour of his mother, who was

a member of the congregation of The Church of God of Prophecy, which founded Nehemiah United Churches Housing Association, which manages Henry Court.

Muriel Hylton, a day resident once a week, was eager to get a snap with Sir Lenny after the celebratory cake-cutting.

She explained how she was friends with his mother in her younger years.

Sir Lenny shared a joke with Muriel before putting his arms around her and posing with a big grin for half-a-dozen photographers.

"Lenny is lovely," she smiled. "His mum would be very proud if she was here today. He really loves his community and it shows in everything he does. His mum was a lovely lady who always took time to help others."

"Seeing Lenny on TV is always something special as it shows just how far he has come."

Joyce Thompson, craft activity worker at Henry Court, said: "I have worked here since it opened and it is just a vibrant place with a real family atmosphere."

"Lenny's mom would have been so inspired and touched if she was still with us."

"Sometimes you find that when someone gets as famous as Lenny they forget their proper roots, but he never has and has always remembered to come back and visit us."

## Laugh

Caroline Reid, manager of Henry Court, said: "I personally asked Lenny to come back here for our birthday celebrations and he said of course he would."

"When he came to film for his show a few years back we sat here in the office and had a right laugh."

"I grew up in Dudley too and I can just tell that Lenny will always have that close connection with the town."

Lenny said: "My mom was a very proud woman and she spent a lot of time in the community and worked incredibly hard in the local area."

"It was extremely touching for Henry Court to be named after her and I am thankful that her name has continued to be remembered in this way."

"On every occasion I return I like to see the work being done here. Not only within Henry Court, but within Dudley as whole."

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# Balancing act of hospital parking fees

ONCE again the subject of hospital car parking fees has arisen, let's look at some of the pros and cons of these charges and try to find a way around them.

Firstly hospital car parks are essential as public transport is not always suitable for people going to hospital, but car parks are expensive to maintain. If no charges were made the cost of this maintenance would have to come from another part of the hospital budget, nursing care, cleaning, etc, we don't really want that.

Look at hospital car park charges

and see if they are fair. No-one wants to go to hospital but everyone is there for a reason. If you are at A&E or as an outpatient your time there depends on the care you receive. A&E care depends on the number of patients using the service and the time it takes to treat each patient. Outpatient care depends on how long it takes to wait for your appointment, rarely on time, and how long your appointment takes. None of this is under your control, so why do you have to be penalised by higher charges for a longer wait. One of the things wrong with hospital charges is

the first fifteen minutes free con. If you have an outpatient appointment it tells you to arrive fifteen minutes early to register.

Would it not be better to have a fair priced one off car park fee of say one pound with a free ten minute drop off pick up time for everyone in A&E or outpatient departments with patients issued with a one off car park ticket at reception on production of the patients appointment letter or on discharge from A&E.

**BRIAN CHILDS**  
Walsall

## Scandal of delay over prosthetics

READ the story of Royal Engineer Clive Smith. He went to war in Afghanistan and was wounded. He lost both legs for queen and country while there - he's only 29.

After Afghanistan came 'our' NHS to look after him. He had to wait months for an operation to repair the legs he had left. Months later he is still waiting for his prosthetics (NHS) to try and lead a better life.

We send millions abroad, millions sent for the migrant trouble in France. For the sacrifice Mr Smith has paid for the country surely some of this cash could be paid into the NHS to help a real case for need.

I wonder how many of our servicemen and women are in a similar position, waiting for help. Gratitude? Our government and NHS do not know the meaning of the word. Regarding Mr Smith how much more do they want him to give?

**J W DAWN**  
Walsall

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### POST

Walsall Chronicle,  
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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

### EMAIL

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## Time to scrap TV licence altogether

SO it seems that there is a cabinet split, neatly described as 'a debate' by Whitehall spin doctors over whether non-payment of the BBC licence fee should be decriminalised.

I hope the 'debate' leads to the sensible conclusion that the licence fee should be scrapped altogether. It is a nonsense that failing to pay a licence fee should be a criminal offence and accounting for almost 10 percent of cases at magistrates Courts. It is also a nonsense that obscene salaries well in excess of £1m a year have been paid to such people as Jonathan Ross, Jeremy Clarkson, Graham Norton, etc. The licence fee, currently at £149.50 per year is a regressive tax that disproportionately penalises those with the least ability to pay.

However the BBC is an institution that generally has great value and helps to maintain broadcasting standards. A better way forward would surely be to scrap the TV licence fee but to protect the BBC's income stream by financing the BBC via general taxation and hopefully getting cross-party support for ensuring that enough public money is ring-fenced, so as to ensure the BBC's continued operations and future.

**CLLR PETE SMITH**  
Walsall MBC

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This would be bad for local people and local economies. It is down to us to tell Mr Osborne how important it is to maintain the Bus Service Operators' Grant across the West Midlands. Please write to your MP calling on them to protect the funding to our bus operators.

The old joke about buses never arriving and then three arriving at once is still banded about as bus users patiently go about their daily travel routes but, imagine the time when there may be no buses at all!

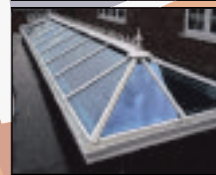
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# Every year counts for long-serving Peter, 77

A WEST Bromwich accountant who has worked at the same firm for 60 years was surprised with a celebratory party to mark the milestone.

Peter Dunton, aged 77, from Walsall, has worked at Fields Accountants, Victoria Street, since leaving school and being offered a position there in July 1955. And despite six decades at the company he still has no plans to retire.

He said: "After leaving school I did a cycling tour around southern England for two weeks and came back to hear that a friend had got a job at an accountancy firm in West Bromwich and got me an interview too. I had the interview with the boss Ivan Field and he said 'you can start Monday if you like'.

"I started as a clerk and the company expanded and I worked my way up to a managerial position. The day I first started the boss gave me a big book with 52 figures on a page and said add it up - back in those days we never had calculators."

## Friends

The company moved to its current premises in 2013. It changed its name from IT Field and Co to Fields Accountants following the death of Ivan Field. For a while Mr Dunton also worked for the Wolverhampton offices of the firm. He said: "I've loved my work over the years, working alongside the clients has been what has made the job for me. They've become good friends too. As I am still enjoying it and able to do it then I have no plans of giving it up."

Mr Dunton and his wife Patricia have two children Lynne, 49 and Jane, 48 and four grandchildren Kirsty, Josh, Beth and Ben.

The surprise party was held at



Celebrating 60 years service for Fields Accountants, is Peter Dunton, aged 77

Dartmouth Central Club, Devonshire Drive, West Bromwich, and was attended by his employees, clients and family.

His daughter Jane Eglen, who came down from Newcastle to help organise the surprise event, said: "Dad actually thought that he and mum were going to an Italian restaurant so when he turned up here it was a shock to see so many faces. He is a wonderful, kind

hearted man with traditional family values. He has always been a very clever man and helped me get my business and finance qualification with a distinction. He is our hero."

At the party Mr Dunton was presented with gifts relating to his beloved West Bromwich Albion. He received a scarf and book with news clippings of the club's victories over the years.



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## Man in hospital after collision



The aftermath of the crash with the wreckage of cars involved, a BMW and a Reliant Robin

A MAN was taken to hospital after a two-car crash on a busy Walsall road. A BMW collided with a Reliant Robin in West Bromwich Road, Delves, at around midday last Thursday. The incident happened near to the junction with Bell Lane and the road was partially closed for around 30 minutes.

The male driver of the Reliant Robin was taken to hospital with minor facial injuries while another man, who had been driving the BMW, was treated for shock at the scene. Crews from West Bromwich fire station attended. Crew commander John Watton said nobody had been trapped in either vehicle and firefighters helped to make the scene safe. He said: "We attended the incident involving two cars that had been in collision at about 12pm.

"One man was taken to hospital with minor facial injuries and a man from the other vehicle was in shock. One lane of the road had to be closed while we dealt with the incident."

The road has been the scene of a number of collisions over the years.

# Fears aired on safety after work on boilers

HOMEOWNERS are potentially being put at risk when getting their boiler serviced due to 'shocking' work from engineers, a consumer site has claimed.

In a damning investigation, Which? called out 10 separate engineers to carry out a service, including major firms such as Walsall-based Homeserve.

It found that only two - British Gas and Corgi - bothered to carry out the minimum legal checks, while none followed the manufacturer's servicing instructions properly.

It is claimed a Homeserve engineer did not check the operating pressure of the boiler - which, left as it was, could have led to a soot build-up and the production of carbon monoxide.

The engineer is then said to have failed to carry out all the legal checks, did not follow the manufacturer's instructions and failed on three of HomeServe's 13 customer promises - including not repairing any gas leaks, since he did not check for them.

Homeserve said an investigation will be carried out and will be horrified if the allegation proves correct.

By Craig Hughes

A spokesperson said: "Which? made us aware of an incident in which they say an engineer working for one of our professional gas contractors undertook an unsafe gas boiler service.

"If this one allegation is correct, then we are horrified.

"We do not compromise on gas safety - it is fundamental to what we do - and that is why we choose carefully, and audit rigorously and regularly, the professional gas contractors we work with and their engineers.

"Indeed, we recently passed a Gas Safe audit.

"As the safety of our customers is paramount to us, we'd like to thank Which? for bringing this matter to our attention."

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## Digging in for beach fun

HUNDREDS of people turned out for a beach-themed open day hosted by a housing association in Walsall.

Walsall Housing Group hosted the event at its office in Hatherton Street, which was transformed into a stunning seaside resort thanks to colleagues.

Free activities including sandcastle building competitions and a puppet show. Children were also treated to donkey rides, while people met with staff to find out more about the services the organisation offers.

## Day of the Daleks at town's museum

**EXTERMINATE! Exterminate!** A squad of Daleks invaded a museum in Walsall at the weekend.

The Charity Dalek Squad visited Aston Manor Road Transport Museum on Sunday.

The squad was formed by a group of Dalek enthusiasts who build and operate life-size Daleks and the team put on shows all over the country, attracting large audiences.

Visitors are invited to go in Doctor Who fancy dress and there will be musical entertainment from Tiffany Lunn, the squad's resident musician.

Actor John Levene, who played

Sergeant John Benton in Doctor Who and Barry Noble, who also appeared in the science-fiction series, answered questions from members of the public.

Mr Noble made his Doctor Who debut as an Egyptian warrior in 1966 and went on to play a Parisian and a patron of the Inferno club before becoming a Cyberman.

Martin Fisher, chairman of the museum, said: "We had a similar event in 2013 which attracted 400 to 500 people."

"The Daleks have motors in them and whoever is inside can speak and it comes out in Dalek speak."



Tony Land and Ken Rickus are seen with the Dalek

## Boarded-up pub may be rescued and reopen

A CENTURY-OLD pub in Walsall that was boarded up suddenly is on the brink of being saved and reopened, it has emerged.

More than 100 people packed into a public meeting at St Mark's Church earlier this year to rally round in support of The Four Crosses in Sheffield, following concerns over a care home scheme.

Plans emerged to build a care home next to, and incorporating, part of the pub, off Mill Road.

The pub has been listed as a community asset, which means if it is put on the market a community bidder or charity can express an

interest in bidding for the building. The Oak Tree Trust has now come forward as the bidder and it now has six months to put together a business and financial plan.

Secretary and chairman of the trustees for the Walsall-based charity Ian Robertson, who is also a councillor for Blakenall, said the community would be also able to have an input into how the funds are raised, adding: "It will be up to the community to show they are right behind it."

Keith Watkins, from Walsall Camra, said the pub had been a natural meeting point for generations.

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# Ryan is aiming to shoot off to Rio



Ryan Cockbill, aged 25, with the gold and bronze medals he has just brought back from Croatia

A SHARPSHOOTER from Aldridge is eyeing a medal in Rio after securing a place at the Paralympics for the Great Britain team.

Ryan Cockbill managed to clinch one of the places available at the recent qualifier event in Croatia.

The 25-year-old won one of the quota places on offer at the shooting competition with six spaces now in the bag for Team GB.

There are a maximum of 12 of the 150 on offer which can be seized by Great Britain. Despite Ryan winning one of the spots there are no guarantees he will be chosen for Rio de Ja-

neiro next year and is aiming to make sure he will be competing. He said: "I have still got to be selected at the start of next year to represent Great Britain in the Paralympics.

"Hopefully if things still go the way they are with training and competitions I should be going but there are no guarantees.

"It was a great achievement I have been working quite hard. If I go to Rio I want to be coming back with a medal.

"It is a sport I really enjoy doing. I manage to travel around the world doing it and to be able to represent Great Britain is a great honour."

Ryan, formerly of Great Barr, came 17th and 21st in two events at the London Paralympic Games. The former Aldridge School pupil trains at Aldersley Sports Village in Wolverhampton while also joining up with his colleagues several times a month at Stoke Mandeville in Aylesbury.

Ryan suffered a compression fracture of his spine – leaving him paralysed from the chest down after he jumped into a pool at a friend's house in 2006.

He picked up shooting during a sports day organised while he was in hospital.

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## Exhibition gets to the art of love and life



Big Heart – 'Inspired by the unique and pure love that children have for their parents and the world'

LOVE is many things to many people and now it is the subject of a series of pop artworks on display in Wolverhampton.

Brazilian-born artist Romero Britto is showcasing works in his iconic style for the first time in the UK. Art lovers can browse the collection at Castle Galleries in Victoria Street and those wanting to add to their own collections can snap up pieces, but only if they have at least £595 to meet the price.

The self-taught artist was inspired by the works of Matisse and Picasso in his youth, before finding fame in America in the 1980s where Pop Art

was flourishing. The collection, self-titled 'Romero Britto', uses vibrant colour and playful themes, with couples embracing and animals both featuring. It is made up of a series of signed limited edition sculptures and canvas prints.

He said: "Art can make you look at something in an exciting and totally different way. It can give you the power to 'fly'. I get my inspiration from simple things in life – from beautiful things that happen around me, things that make me happy and leave me inspired."

Ian Weatherby-Blythe, managing

director at Washington Green which runs Castle Galleries, said: "Romero Britto is one of the most celebrated artists of our time – expressionistic and vibrant, his work is universal."

"Our new never-before-seen collection provides the British public with the opportunity to buy his work in the UK for the first time. We anticipate the collection will appeal to a broad spectrum of collectors and art lovers alike."

Britto has exhibited in 30 countries across four continents, and collaborated with some of the most famous global brands including Coca Cola.

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Aldridge Fireplaces has now been established for over seven years, and the company seems to be growing from strength to strength.

"The company has built a strong presence in the local area winning the prestigious award of most loved fireplace company in the UK as voted by 'the best of client feedback back in 2014,' Dan Pennell states.

He added: "Since 2014 the business has grown significantly and we now have qualified and experienced installers that can complete a simple electric fire install to that of a full solid fuel stove installation, as well as starting and completing the works to that of a high quality finish.

"Aldridge Fireplaces is a family-owned business with the emphasis on a relaxed, personal service and offers a unique service on all suites and packages. The stylish showroom features some exclusive marble and Portuguese limestone displays, solid wood and stone surrounds.

"Our experienced sales staff are also able to offer packages to suit all ages and styles of home, and offer quality products at affordable prices, as well as manufacture bespoke fireplaces to the correct size for each customer

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if required. In addition to this there is currently FREE FITTING on offer when you purchase a fire with a suite. So unlike many other companies you will not be hit with a bill of around £250 to fit your fire and fireplace, we will cover the cost!

"This bank holiday we will be carrying another one of our great sale events! on Friday August 28th, Saturday 29th and Monday 31st, where we will be offering some amazing deals.

### Confident

"We feel August bank holiday is an opportunity for families to get out as this is the last of the year and with this in mind we wanted to offer our customers something special and decided for this weekend only to offer 50 per cent off any fire when purchased with one of our quality suites.

"The free fitting has proven to be very popular. We now have a qualified Gas safe and Hetas accredited team of engineers who work for the company and our customers can therefore be confident that all work carried out is completed to the relevant industry standards.

"Most fireplace showrooms in the market will offer a card from a third party installer, well that's where we differ as all our works are carried out

and guaranteed by the company therefore giving you added satisfaction and piece of mind.

"Staff will visit each home if required to ensure the correct specification of fireplace is fitted.

"The choice of fires and fireplaces is a very personal one, so with us visiting each customer's home personally we can offer advice as to which ones would look the best.

"In the past we have celebrated our anniversary with different offers. However this is one of our best yet 50 per cent is a massive saving. Not only are we offering our customers FREE FITTING on all suites when purchased with a gas or electric fire we will give you a 50 per cent discount off any of our gas or electric fire range (this excludes balanced flue and power flued specialist fires and any manager's specials).

"I don't believe anyone else in the area are currently offering such an amazing deals this bank holiday.

"With all this in mind it has never been a better time to purchase your new fireplace from us, and with the added incentive of 50 per cent off your gas or electric fire when purchased with any suite, this is an offer not to be missed.

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Further info & to view online catalogue: [www.potteriesauctions.com](http://www.potteriesauctions.com)  
01782 638100  
Viewing: Friday 28, 9am - 5pm, & Day of sale from 9am.  
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# Showcasing best parks have to offer

## COMMERCIAL FEATURE

**THE owners of a premier group of parks in the heart of England and mid-Wales are opening their gates to welcome visitors who want to explore the idea of holiday home ownership.**

The aptly-named "Bestparks" group are hosting a Showcase Weekend from August 28 to 31 at all of their six first class country parks.

This family-owned group prides itself on operating a range of parks that never compromise on the Bestparks Five-star standards.

"What sets us apart from our competitors is that we have parks within our group that can match most holiday home owner's needs," said Alwyn Jones, founder of the business and father to Wayne and Glenn who both run their own Bestparks.

"Some people want more facilities for families, whilst others want small and intimate country retreats. Within the Bestparks group we are able to deliver on all counts.

"Wayne and Sarah's park, Poston Mill is unrivalled in the area for location and park facilities, whilst Pearl Lake run by Glenn and Hannah is a luxury country park set around a breath-taking 15 acre glacier lake."

Other parks include The Smithy in mid-Wales, popular with people from the Midlands wanting a high quality halfway point for the coast; Arrow Bank a small select park in the historical village of Eardisland; Westbrook a



Parks can match the needs of any holiday home owner



The open weekend is an ideal chance to see the facilities on offer

touring park near Ludlow and Rockbridge Park at Presteigne which also has park homes for sale.

This is the second open weekend of the season and is a chance for all six parks to showcase themselves and their facilities and an opportunity for visitors to view the wide range of

holiday homes on display. Each park will be hosting events over the weekend and as all the parks are within an hour's drive of each other visitors have a great opportunity to also enjoy this beautiful region.

You can download free tickets for the events at [www.bestparks.co.uk](http://www.bestparks.co.uk)

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# Outrage over pile of tyres at beauty spot

**MORE than 20 lorry and car tyres have been dumped at a beauty spot – sparking outrage from locals.**

Members of The Friends of Fibbersley Nature Reserve, which look after the site at Noose Lane in Willenhall voluntarily, were dismayed when they discovered the discarded tyres a few weeks ago.

But the group were even more alarmed when they were told Walsall Council, which is responsible for the land, would not be able to collect them until October.

However following fierce criticism the authority has now responded and confirmed they would be removing the tyres in a matter of days. Willenhall South ward members Councillor Sean and Diane Coughlin initially raised the issue with the council after meeting with the friends group.

## Pleased

Councillor Sean Coughlin said: "We are really really pleased they are going to be removed now, not just for the fact we have been able to get involved and do something but really pleased for the friends of the reserve who work hard all year round."

Councillor Louise Harrison, portfolio holder for Clean and Green added: "I find it appalling that someone has dumped a load of tyres into the water. "The area is a beautiful, green oasis where nature has a chance to thrive and visitors can escape the urban landscape. There are legitimate ways to dispose this type of waste but this isn't one of them."

Anyone witnessing someone dumping waste can report it by emailing [cleanandgreen@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:cleanandgreen@walsall.gov.uk) or call 01922 653344 or the Council's Environmental Health on 01922 653020.



From left, Sean Coughlin, Tian and Megan Cox, Trevor Smith and Debbie Moses

## Six towns stroll planned

A POPULAR walking event is returning on Sunday taking in the sights of Sandwell.

People can take part in the Six Towns Challenge for the chance to run or walk distances of 14,18 or 26 miles. People can enter on the day for £7.

For those daunted by the Six Towns Challenge and prefer gentler exercise there will be a five-mile guided walk around Sandwell Valley starting at 10.30am after the distance walkers have set out.

There is no charge for this walk and no pre-booking. People can just turn up at 10am to register and join an experienced walk leader and team.

More details on the challenge is available by calling 0121 5530220 or visiting the Sandwell Ramblers page.

The event coincides with the Sandwell Show also taking place next weekend.

Information on the Sandwell Show is available at [www.sandwell.gov.uk/sandwellshow](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/sandwellshow)

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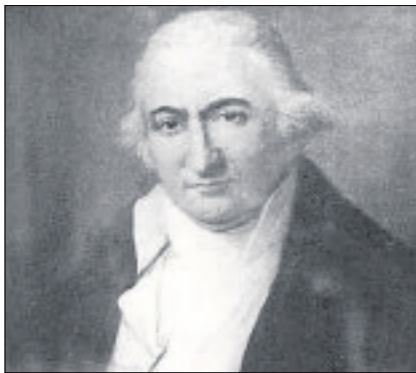
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The family home, Great Barr Hall, which later became St Margaret's Hospital



Samuel Galton the younger, with Black Country links



Crowds on the opening day of Warley Woods as a park in 1906

# Galton family's influence on region

## MEMORY LANE

By Carl Chinn

**GALTON** is a surname synonymous with the Black Country, ever since Samuel Galton the younger and his wife Lucy moved into Great Barr Hall following the birth of their daughter Mary Ann in 1778.

The hall became St Margaret's Hospital, and was leased from Sir Joseph Scott.

Mary Ann remembered their home as - "The mansion of a beautiful though not very large estate. It was set in an amphitheatre of wooded hills, one of which was covered with noble oak and beach trees, another with dark firs and walnuts, and a third with young plantations.

"On the top of the highest of these hills was a small area, in the midst of a picturesque clump of aged Scotch firs, where rose a flagstaff, as high as the mainmast of a ship, which could be seen from a vast distance around.



**Galton Bridge, Smethwick, over the Birmingham Canal, named after the family**  
Here, on days for receiving company, Sir Joseph Scott had been used to hoist a flag with an inscription similar to that on the staff itself: A welcome to all friends round the Wrekin."

Samuel had made his fortune as a gunmaker, despite being a Quaker, who were renowned as pacifists, and also tried his hand at banking.

He also owned the Warley Hall Estate, which he bought in 1792 for the

huge sum of £7,500. This estate was mentioned in 1576 when a John Warley, whose ancestors may have taken their name from the area, married Frances Middlemore. She was the daughter of the lord of the manor of nearby Edgbaston and in the succeeding decades her family would be persecuted and fined heavily for staying loyal to the Roman Catholic faith.

The Warleys remained at Warley

Hall until 1686. The house and estate then passed through various hands until bought by the Quaker Galtons, who intended to make big improvements. To do so, Samuel and Lucy engaged the celebrated landscape architect Humphrey Repton to design a superb new house on their estate and to place it within a wonderful setting. Credited with actually coining the term 'landscape garden', Repton embraced a natural style of gardening, which he felt brought together in an imaginative and yet tangible way the 'powers of the landscape painter and the practical gardener'.

An assiduous researcher and detailer of what he saw and thought, Repton compiled a book for each client. Bound in red leather, these red books contained complete and carefully drawn maps showing the landscape before and after his suggested changes. Fortunately the Red Book for Warley, dating from 1795, survives in Sandwell's Community History and Archives in Smethwick Library.

As it was, the design for the new house at Warley was not implemented, and nor was much work done on the

landscape. Consequently, Samuel the younger and Mary carried on living at Great Barr Hall where they raised seven children. The oldest was Samuel Tertius Galton.

He married Frances Violetta, a daughter of Erasmus Darwin. They were the parents of Francis Galton, who was born in Birmingham. Later knighted, Francis was a scientist and explorer who travelled widely in Africa and who is best remembered for his studies examining the connection between heredity and intelligence, which led to the field of study of eugenics.

However, it was their second, son, Hubert, who changed things in Warley. Living with a large family at Hockley Abbey in Birmingham, his mind turned to enlarging and rebuilding Warley Tor - a circular summer house with an observation platform above and a single room on each side at ground level. Hubert approached the eminent Scottish architect Robert Lugar to draw up plans but they came to nothing; but then in 1818 he asked Lugar to design a new home elsewhere on the estate. This was to be funded

through a gift of £1,000 from his father.

Built in a Gothic Revival style, the mansion had a medieval look, boasting pinnacles, battlements and buttresses.

Some of Repton's Red Book proposals were carried out in the landscaping of the estate as a whole.

Work was completed around 1819-20 and the Galtons moved into Warley Abbey. After 20 or so years, they left and were replaced by various tenants. One was the newspaper magnate Sir Hugh Gilzean-Reid and his family, who bought part of the estate and the house from Mary Galton, the only surviving child of Hubert. Remembered in Reid Road, Sir Hugh threw lavish parties.

William Gladstone, leader of the Liberals and a prime minister on several occasions, was among those he entertained. Another supposed visitor was the Grey Lady, a ghost.

Closer to Smethwick town centre and by the Birmingham Canal, Galton Valley, Galton Bridge and Galton Street emphasise the involvement of the Galtons with the Birmingham Canal Navigation Company.

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Early learning helps children to develop

# Children's important early start



Youngsters learn through practical play and exploring



Children will get the opportunity to learn, make friends and become more confident

## COMMERCIAL FEATURE

### FREE early learning – when can your child start?

Did you know that some two-year-olds and all three and four-year-olds are able to have free early learning at a variety of settings across Walsall Borough?

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It can help them develop, learn, make friends, become more confident and most importantly, have fun!

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What they do at the childcare

setting will depend on their interests and likes, so there is lots of variety and every child is treated as an individual.

As well as helping children, free early learning gives parents and carers time to spend with other children, undertake training, work or anything else that they may not normally have time for.

Children can go to day nurseries, childminders, playgroups, schools, so there will be something that suits your family's needs.

### Credit

If you have a two-year-old then they might be able to start getting their free early years learning before they turn three.

Get in touch with Walsall Families Information Service if your family are getting:

- Working Tax Credit / Child Tax Credit and earn less than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit 4-week run on
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support

- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support through part 6 Immigration and Asylum Act
- Or if your child:
  - Receives Disability Living Allowance
  - Has a current statement of special educational needs or an Education Health and Care plan
  - Is looked after by a local council
  - Has left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order

To help you understand exactly what is on offer, how your family accesses their place and giving people the chance to talk through any concerns – there are qualified, friendly staff at Walsall FIS on hand to take your phone calls and emails.

You can also pop into the Central Children's Library to have a talk face-to-face.

Walsall FIS are open Tuesday – Saturday.

You can call them on 01922 653383 or to find out more online, simply log onto [www.mywalsall.org/fis](http://www.mywalsall.org/fis)



## FREE early learning: When can your child start?

Some 2 year olds, and all 3 and 4 year olds can have up to 15 hours each week of free early learning. To find out when your child can start contact Walsall FIS.

Call 01922 653383 Online [www.mywalsall.org/fis](http://www.mywalsall.org/fis)



# Thieves who posed as police in probe jailed

A COUPLE who posed as police officers to steal cash from a 76-year-old man in his home have been jailed. Crimea Price and Gemma Davis claimed to be probing a counterfeit money racket when they burst into the victim's high rise flat. The pair tricked another resident at Dover House in Providence Close, Leamore to knock on the front door and tell him he had a couple of callers in the hope that it would encourage the man to let them in on April 19.

The ruse worked but once inside they pushed him aside, picked up his jacket and started going through the pockets. They took £200 cash and some cigarettes before combing the kitchen and bedroom where they picked up a pair of cuff-links.

"They said they were police officers who were investigating coun-

terfeit money," explained Mr Mark Phillips, prosecuting. Davis, 28, and 39-year-old Price left on April but returned two days later. The initial incident had not been reported to the police but they were seen by the same man who had inadvertently helped them on their first visit.

Price told him he was the man's nephew but the person was suspicious and told administrative staff at the block of flats.

By this time the two tricksters had left but a resident knew Price and the pair were traced by police to their home in Goscote Lane, Bloxwich. The two defendants each admitted stealing £200 cash, a set of cuff links and cigarettes during the April 19 burglary. Price was jailed for three years six months while Davis received a two-year three months prison term.



Right, mayor Angela Underhill and left, her husband and consort John Underhill with Mavis and Bob Jackson in the mayor's parlour

# Sparkling day for 60th couple in parlour visit

COUPLES can mark their milestone wedding anniversary with cream tea at Walsall Town Hall.

The mayor is inviting nominations so couples can celebrate the occasion with her in the prestigious building.

The first to take up councillor Angela Underhill's offer were Robert and Mavis Jackson from Bloxwich – after they were nominated by their son Ian. The couple first met at dance hall, the Mayfair on the Bridge in the summer of 1953 aged just 18 and 19. They married in Central Hall, Ablewell Street in 1955 – their 60th wedding anniversary was this month. They retraced their earlier wedding day steps before crossing the road to join the Mayor, Councillor Underhill in her parlour and celebrate the milestone.

Mrs Jackson, aged 79, said: "We had a lovely day and anniversary. It was so lovely to get the invitation, it was great fun and everyone has enjoyed it a lot."

Her husband, 78, said: "Absolutely smashing; really enjoyable and the news had spread around our church by the next day." When asked what the recipe was for a long and happy marriage he said, "being kind, being there and that little bit of magic – which is what she is." Councillor Underhill said: "I was honoured that Robert and Mavis could join me on their special diamond anniversary."

Nominations are still being sought any anyone who knows of a couple reaching such a marital milestone, from now until next May, can be put forward. To nominate yourselves, or suggest another couple, write to Verity Edwards, Mayor's personal assistant, Legal and Democratic Services, Mayor's Office, The Mayor's Parlour, The Council House, Lichfield Street, Walsall, WS1 1TP.

Alternatively send an email to verity.edwards@walsall.gov.uk.

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**It's a wheel deal thanks to investment**



From left, Phil Davies, of Lloyds, Jonathan Thacker, director of the firm and Lauro Rodi, Lloyds regional manager

A WHEELBARROW manufacturer in Wednesfield is looking to expand after production was given a boost with new kit bought thanks to a £500,000 funding package from Lloyds Bank.

The two new tube bending machines, used to make the wheelbarrow frameworks, have helped boost production at the Walsall Wheelbarrow Company by more than 60 per cent.

In turn the company has seen its annual turnover rise from £6.5-£8.5 million a year. Walsall Wheelbarrow, which employs around 50 people at its Phoenix Road site in Wednesfield, is now planning to move to bigger prem-

ises to give it more operating space, which bosses say will help increase its efficiency in line with growth plans.

Walsall Wheelbarrow has been established for more than 20 years and sells its products to distributors, as well as directly to both retail and trade outlets, with its customers including B&Q, John Lewis, Amazon and Screwfix Direct.

Company director Jonathan Thacker said: "We realised that in the face of international competition we needed to increase our output levels, and the purchase of new machinery has given us that extra capacity."

"Thanks to the support provided by the bank, we can now make a greater number of wheelbarrows whilst maintaining the high mark of quality associated with our brand, and the next stop for us is purchasing a larger premises in the Wednesfield area to accommodate our growing operations."

Phil Davies, of Lloyds Bank Commercial Banking, said: "As market leaders in wheelbarrow manufacturing, it's important that The Walsall Wheelbarrow Company maintain their position at the forefront of the market, offering both competitively priced products of an unrivalled standard."

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# Vintage bus returns to get a new lease of life

IT'S a vehicle with a history and was skilfully crafted at Wolverhampton's former world famous Guy Motors.

Now, this vintage coach is getting a makeover by a team of volunteers after making a welcome return to the region.

It is one of two Guy Arab coaches dating back to 1959 bought by Harper Brothers from Heath Hayes to ferry passengers on day trips.

They have now arrived in the care of volunteers from Aston Manor Road Transport Museum, Aldridge after being shipped over from Ireland last year.

The volunteers have set about re-vamping one of the 40-plus seaters as part of a long-term project to get it back on the road. This has involved stripping out large parts of the vehicle.

## Interior

Chairman Martin Fisher, of Aston Manor Road Transport Museum, said: "The first aim is to get the one we have started, back into running order and looking as it would have done when it was with Harpers. We have started to strip out the interior and we have taken most of the seats out."

"We are working on one at the moment, we are concentrating on getting just the one restored at first."

He added they would welcome any donations to help towards the restoration worth up to £60,000 and also storage costs.

After being bought by Harper Brothers to carry passengers on day trips, the coaches were sold to a Scout group in Northern Ireland in 1971 and used to ship youngsters from their headquarters in Limerick to scout camps around the country. They were then used by a coach company in the Republic of Ireland.

It later emerged the coaches were



Martin Fisher visits the Aston Manor Transport Museum store in Aldridge



The 1959 Guy Arab LUF/Burlingham Harper Bros bus seen in all its glory

stranded in a barn on the outskirts of Dublin in a dreadful condition and rusting away.

But thanks to the generosity of their former owner and an unnamed benefactor the buses have since made it back to home soil after being loaded onto large flat-bed lorries and transported via ferry across the Irish Sea.

Guy Motors operated out of its Park

Lane factory between 1914 and 1982, and is credited with playing an important role in the development of the British motor industry.

During the Second World War, the firm produced armoured vehicles used in the evacuation of Dunkirk, and also made chassis for more than 2,000 double-decker buses to cater for a shortage caused by the Blitz.

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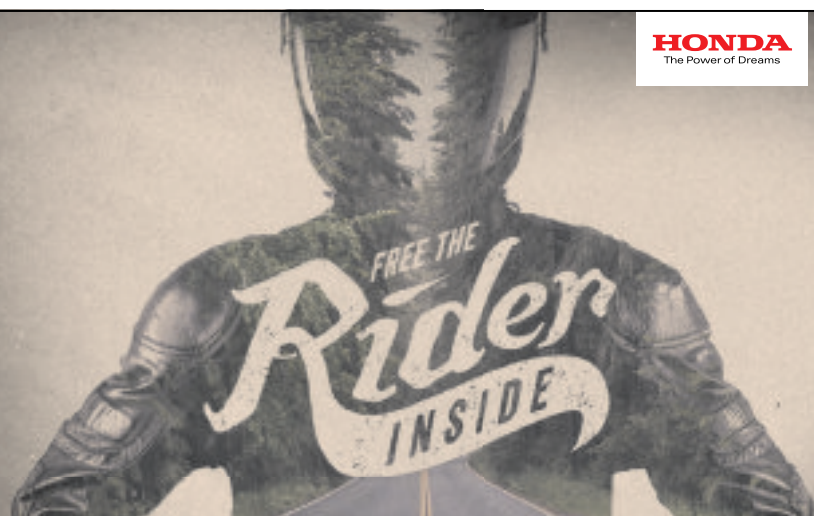


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## Guest brings along owls of delight

Codsall Wood WI

DENISE Moreton explained in November she received a letter from the Cabinet Office in strict confidence, proposing to submit her name to the Queen for an OBE in the New Year's Honours List.

She heard nothing until the New Year when she received a phone call from the Express & Star and she made headline news.

Denise travelled to the Palace with her son and sister.

In total 103 received honours.

They were divided into five groups. Princess Anne was presenting the honours.

They procedure took an hour and a half. Then then they had to wait to have the official photos taken. It was a day Denise will remember for the rest of her life.

Speaker for the evening was Mrs Gillian Hales with her live owls.

She has many owls, her oldest owl is 21. Members were introduced to 15-year-old barn owl Kitlea.

The little owl, Dippy, likes to be stroked on his head.

Next to be introduced was Bredon Hill who was kept in a shed for seven years until rescued by Gillian.

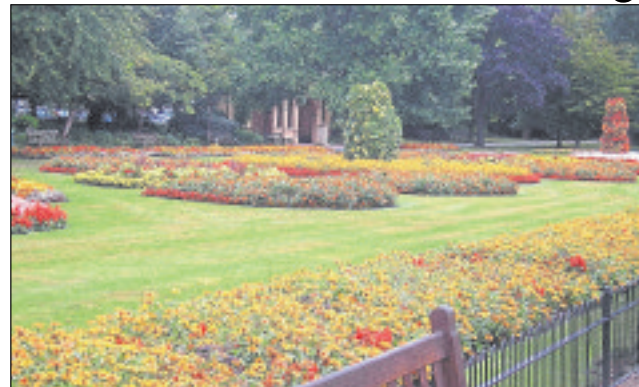
Next were three tawny owls, Kinlet, Stretton and Snowdon and Wenlock, an African owl and the second smallest.

There was an American owl, a burrowing owl who lives on cow dung, and Cheddar, found in Southend and always preening herself.

Gillian took around an Asian Brown Wood Owl, six-years-old called Chip.

There are only 50 breeding pairs in the whole country. The evening finished with tea and biscuits and a thank you to Gillian and her husband.

## Going to the dogs for an informative outing



Jephson Gardens in Leamington Spa which was visited by the ladies

Trysull & Seisdon WI

THERE was no meeting in August, but the ladies did go to the dogs . . . the national breeding centre for Guide Dogs for the Blind, newly-built near Leamington Spa.

After a short film explaining the work that they do, they were taken on a tour of the centre.

Only the best dogs are used for breeding. They are carefully chosen for their temperament and are regularly checked to make sure they are in good health. Many of the dogs are born at home with their volunteer carers, but some are born at the centre.

As the puppies grow they are exposed to different sights and sounds, such as vacuum cleaners and washing machines, just as they would be if they were in a normal home.

They are carefully monitored to see how they react to different stimuli and to assess their suitability to become guide dogs.

After coffee and homemade cake lunch at the Pump Rooms in Leamington Spa followed and then a couple of free hours to explore the town. As the rain had stopped, some walked into the nearby Jephson gardens which has a lake, fountains, sculptures and spectacular colourful bedding displays.

There is also a sub-tropical glasshouse and a sensory garden. Thanks to Sue Bicknell for organising the interesting outing.

## Snapshot of royal photographer

Coven WI

THE last two months have been busy for Coven WI.

At the July meeting after all formal business was concluded, the president welcomed Margaret Beddard, president of Shareshill WI who was a delegate at the Centenary AGM in the Albert Hall, London.

She gave an eloquent and detailed report of the memorable day.

The president then introduced Judy Hubble, her specialist subject being Patrick Lichfield the famous royal photographer and the history of Shugborough House and gardens.

Refreshments were served and a raffle was drawn. In August Coven members

hosted an afternoon tea party to celebrate the centenary of WI.

Members from other groups joined in, contributing towards a sumptuous tea of homemade cakes and sandwiches.

On September 8 at Coven Memorial Hall, 7.30pm, speaker Mrs Gaynor Woodward will present the history of jewellery making.

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# Fears party is in terminal decline

**DANIEL WAINWRIGHT**  
Political Editor

"I did not nominate a candidate because none of them looked very inspiring to me."

In one sentence, Rob Marris sums up everything that is wrong with the Labour leadership contest.

Breaking his silence on the race to replace Ed Miliband, the only 'new' Labour MP for Wolverhampton or the wider Black Country decided to support Andy Burnham.

But in a blog post he was hardly enthusiastic about any of the four people who are currently canvassing for votes not just from Labour members but from the many 'registered supporters' who get a say over the future of the party for a mere three quid.

## Inspire

With the forensic analysis of a solicitor (for this is what Mr Marris was before becoming an MP) he explains Labour's problem in reasoned, logical terms: "It seems to me that some of them are unlikely ever to inspire the wider electorate."

"None of the candidates has ever had for any length of time what many constituents would call a real job - it's all been in and around the Westminster bubble - and that critique includes Jeremy Corbyn (for whom I am not voting) and Andy Burnham (for whom I am)." The Wolverhampton South West MP bucked the trend at the election by unseating a Tory, the same one who unseated him five years earlier.



Wolverhampton South West MP Rob Marris is backing Andy Burnham

He goes on to endorse shadow health secretary Mr Burnham as the one with the chance to grow the appeal of Labour and praises his willingness to 'risk the ire of the right-wingers'.

If the 1983 election manifesto was the 'longest suicide note in history', this drawn out contest may well be, as others have already punned, the longest suicide note.

The deep fear of other Labour MPs is that he will never win over the 'shy Tories', the ones who did not vote for David Cameron's Conservatives with any great enthusiasm, but did so because they saw his party as the most competent and the safest pair of hands for the economy.

Labour does not have a divine right to be a party of government. Indeed it does not have a divine right to exist at all, requiring the backing of the elec-

torate to have enough MPs either to govern or to oppose.

The Liberal Democrats have seen how quickly they can go from a party of power to one of near oblivion, of almost shouting through the letterbox of Downing Street when once they would have sat around its cabinet table.

The Corbyn voters, whether dyed in the wool Labour members or those who have signed up for £3, seem to be backing him with a sense of hope and optimism about what they perceive to be a new direction for the party.

Indeed his campaign represents, for his backers, a new lease of life for socialism. For many other party supporters, however, hearts are not filled with hope but they carry a certain heaviness. They fear the party of opposition may be in terminal decline.

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Supergrass  
star on folk  
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Page 29



**Yap, Yap, Yap, it's  
Alan Carr - page 29**

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 Robin 2, Bilston,  
 WV14 7LJ  
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**T.Rextasy**  
 Sat at 9pm  
 £13/£15  
 Robin 2, Bilston,  
 WV14 7LJ  
 Call 01902 401211

**The Doors Alive**  
 Sun at 7pm  
 £10/£12  
 Robin 2, Bilston,  
 WV14 7LJ  
 Call 01902 401211

**Interrobang And Guests**  
 Mon at 8pm, £6  
 The Crescent Theatre,  
 Birmingham,  
 B16 8AE,  
 Call 0121 643 5858

**Myth City**  
 Fri at 6pm - 10pm, £8  
 O2 Academy Birmingham,  
 6-18 Bristol Street,  
 Birmingham, B1 1DB,  
 Call 0121 622 8250

**Louvaine**  
 Sat - Sun at 7.30pm - 2am,  
 £5  
 Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,  
 Birmingham,  
 B14 7JZ,  
 Call 0844 870 0000

**Jim Adkins**  
 Wed at 7.30pm - 11pm,  
 £17.50  
 The Glee Club,  
 Birmingham,  
 B5 4TD,  
 Call 0871 472 0400

Thu at 7pm, £17.50  
 The Rainbow,  
 Birmingham, B12 0LD,  
 Call 0121 753 1818

**Hugh Cornwell**  
 Sun at 8pm - 11pm, £20  
 Artrix, Bromsgrove,  
 B61 1PQ,  
 Call 01527 577330

**The Dear Hunter**  
 Thu at 7pm, £9  
 The Rainbow, Digbeth,  
 Birmingham, B12 0LD,  
 Call 0121 753 1818

**Jonny Craig**  
 Sun at 7pm, £10  
 The Rainbow, 160 Digbeth,  
 Birmingham, B12 0LD,  
 Call 0121 753 1818

**Cold Fields**  
 Fri at 7pm - 11pm,  
 The Rainbow,  
 Digbeth, Birmingham,  
 B12 0LD,  
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**Saturday, 9pm**  
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 Birmingham, B12 0LD,  
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## REGGAE

**Marcia Griffiths**  
 Sat at 9pm, £27.50  
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 16-18 Bristol Street,  
 Birmingham, B1 1DB,  
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**Atif Aslam**  
 Sat at 7.30pm  
 £25 - £100  
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 Birmingham, B1 2EA,  
 Call 0121 780 3333

## FOLK & ACOUSTIC

**Irish Music Session**  
 Wed at 8pm,  
 Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston,  
 Stourbridge,  
 DY8 3TB, Call 01384 374410

**Liquor & Poker Band**  
 Sat at 12am, Free  
 Katie Fitzgerald's,  
 Wollaston, Stourbridge,  
 DY8 3TB, Call 01384 374410

**Luke Daniels**  
 Sun at 7.30pm - 10.30pm, £8  
 Kitchen Garden Cafe,  
 King's Heath,  
 Birmingham,  
 B14 7SA,  
 Call 0121 443 4725

**Sandpiper Folk Club Night**  
 Wed at 7.45pm,  
 Pigot Arms, 11 High Street,  
 Fittingham,  
 Wolverhampton, WV6 7BQ,  
 Call 01902 700207

**Common Folk: Singers' Night**  
 Thu at 8.30pm,  
 Pelsall Cricket & Sports Club,  
 Walsall Road, Walsall,  
 WS3 4BP, Call 01922 682018

**Brewood Acoustic Club**  
 Thu at 8pm,  
 Brewood Cricket Club, Four  
 Ashes Road, Brewood,  
 ST19 9HX, Call 01902 850422

**Country Music Nights**  
 Sun at 8.15pm, £2  
 Swan With Two Necks,  
 Longdon, WS15 4PN,  
 Call 01543 491570

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 Fri at 9.30pm, Sat at 9.30pm,  
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 The Jam House, St Pauls Square,  
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**Saturday, 7.30pm**  
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### The Commandments

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 The River Rooms,  
 Stourbridge,  
 DY8 1JN, Call 01384 397177

## OPEN MICS

**Open Mic**  
 Tue at 7.30pm, Free  
 The Drum, Aston on Carrant,  
 Birmingham,  
 B6 4UU, Call 0121 333 2400

**Open Mic Night**  
 Mon at 8.30pm, Free  
 Katie Fitzgerald's,  
 Wollaston, Stourbridge,  
 DY8 3TB, Call 01384 374410

## THEATRE

**Tagore's Dance Drama: Valmiki Pratibha**  
 Sun at 6pm, £7 - £12  
 mac, Cannon Hill Road,  
 Birmingham,  
 B12 9QH, Call 0121 446 3232

**Charity: To Give Or Not To Give**  
 Sat at 6.30pm, £15  
 mac, Cannon Hill Road,  
 Birmingham,  
 B12 9QH,  
 Call 0121 446 3232

**Summer In Southside 2015**  
 Sat at 9am - 6pm, Sun at 9am - 6pm, Free  
 Birmingham Hippodrome,  
 B5 4TB,  
 Call 0844 338 5000

**Love Me Tender**  
 Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,  
 7.30pm, £12 - £50.90  
 New Alexandra Theatre,  
 Birmingham,  
 B5 4DS,  
 Call 0844 871 3011

**The Bodyguard**  
 Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm,  
 7.30pm, £18 - £49.50  
 Birmingham Hippodrome,  
 B5 4TB, Call 0844 338 5000

**Beauty and the Beast**  
 Fri, Sat, 2pm, 7pm  
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 Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,  
 ST16 2LT,  
 Call 01785 619080

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 Birmingham,  
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**Manford's Comedy Club**  
 Sat at 7.30pm - 11pm,  
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 Players Bar Birmingham,  
 B1 2HG, Call 0121 643 6817

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 University of Birmingham,  
 B15 2TS,  
 Call 0121 414 7333

## CLUBBING

**Southport Reunion**  
 Sun - Mon at 9pm - 3am, £11  
 Hare & Hounds,  
 Kings Heath, Birmingham,  
 B14 7JZ, Call 0844 870 0000

**Westwood**  
 Fri - Sat at 10pm - 4am,  
 £0 - £10  
 Electric Cinema,  
 Birmingham,  
 B5 4DY, Call 0121 643 7879

**Secret Reels**  
 Fri - Sat at 9pm - 2am, Free  
 The Bulls Head, Moseley,  
 Birmingham, B13 8HW,  
 Call 0121 256 7777

**Ultra**  
 Mon at 12am, £4 - £5  
 Gatecrasher Birmingham,  
 B15 1DA, Call 0121 633 1520

**Superstar Boudoir**  
 Sat - Sun at 10.30pm - 4am,  
 £5 - £10  
 Gatecrasher Birmingham,  
 B15 1DA,  
 Call 0121 633 1520

**Supernova Vague**  
 Fri - Sat at 10.30pm - 4am,  
 £3 - £7  
 Gatecrasher Birmingham,  
 B15 1DA,  
 Call 0121 633 1520

**GB Mondays!**  
 Mon at 12am,  
 Gatecrasher Birmingham,  
 B15 1DA,  
 Call 0121 633 1520

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**Create Your Own Victorian Portrait: Workshop**  
 Fri at 2pm - 5pm, Sat at 2pm - 5pm,  
 Wednesbury Museum & Art Gallery, Holyhead Road,  
 Wednesbury, WS10 7DF,  
 Call 0121 556 0683

**Play With Clay: Workshop**  
 Fri at 11am - 2pm, £2  
 Kinver Edge and the Rock Houses,  
 Stourbridge, DY7 6DL,  
 Call 01384 872553

**The Story Players**  
 Fri at 11am - 12pm, 2pm - 3pm,  
 £1  
 Haden Hill House Museum,  
 Cradley Heath, B64 7JU,  
 Call 01384 569444

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star



# Monkee business at Moseley festival

**BACK** in the Sixties they were America's answer to The Beatles and now two of the grand-daddies of the manufactured boy band the Monkees will be headlining on the final day of the annual Moseley Folk Festival which runs from Friday September 4 to Sunday 6.

Peter Tork and Mickey Dolenz won't exactly be jumping on the last train but they will be bringing an air of nostalgia to the popular Birmingham event which is marking its 10th anniversary this year.

They are among another impressive line up of folk and acoustic artists who will be keeping the crowds entertained over the three days.

The line up includes former Supergrass lead singer Gaz Coombes who has taken up a solo career, Spiritualized – who are a rock band from Warwickshire – known for its constantly changing line up behind lead member Jason Pierce, Scottish indie rock band Idlewild, award-winning sisters The Unthanks and Texan choir The Polyphonic Spree, who bring their unique brand of music based around a variety of vocal techniques.

There is a real treat for veteran folkies too as legends Martin Carthy and Dave Swarbrick, two of the most respected musicians on the scene, join the Sunday shows.

Other musicians who have been making a big impression on the scene and will be bringing something



Mickey Dolenz and Peter Tork of The Monkees will headline on Sunday

for everyone include John Smith, Du Blonde, Anna Calvi, Stick In The Wheel, Josienne Clarke & Ben Walker, The Cadbury Sisters and Dawes.

The festival also runs many workshops based around music and traditional culture, the sessions cover

activities such as music for dancing, playing bones, harmony singing, storytelling, ukulele and guitar workshops and barn dancing.

There are a wide range of party, individual and day ticket prices so for more information visit [www.moseley-folk.co.uk](http://www.moseley-folk.co.uk).



## All talk from comic Carr

**CHATTY** man Alan Carr has embarked on his first stand-up tour in three years – and pledges it will be his most intimate yet.

Following on from previous live shows Spexy Beast and Tooth Fairy, the award-winning comedian and TV host embarked on the 120-date tour in February and will perform in the Midlands, with three nights in Birmingham and another in Wolverhampton next month.

Born in Weymouth, Dorset, Carr spent most of his childhood living in Northampton, where his father Graham managed the town's league football team. He moved to Manchester to kick-start his comedy career in his 20s.

### Established

Having landed his big break on The Friday Night Project, Carr has gone on to present Celebrity Ding Dong and Going Out With Alan Carr on Radio 2. He's branched out into film with a role in *Nativity!* and, after 13 years as host of Channel 4 talk show *Chatty Man*, Carr has established himself as one of the nation's favourite entertainers.

Carr admits he steered clear of big arenas in favour of smaller venues as he wanted to get more up close and personal with his loyal fanbase. And he believes *Yap Yap Yap* is his most intimate show to date as co-habiting with his partner provides the bulk of his material.

Fans can catch Alan Carr at the Birmingham Hippodrome from September 10-12. Tickets are £30.

Call 0844 338 5000 for details. The Wolverhampton date is at the Civic Hall on September 26. Tickets are £33. Call 0870 320 7000 or e-mail [boxoffice@wolvescivic.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@wolvescivic.co.uk)

### Kielty going back to comedy roots

IRISH funnyman Patrick Kielty is going back to his stand-up roots – and will take in Birmingham during his latest tour.

The Northern Irish comic, husband of West Bromwich-born TV presenter Cat Deeley, will take to the road during his autumn for his new show, *Help*.

Presenting material performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, he will, with a little bit of guidance from the audience, attempt to rewrite the modern rule book for love, life and happiness.

Fans in the second city can catch the show at the Glee Club, Hurst Street, on Sunday, October 25.

Tickets are £16.

### TOWIE star takes to the catwalk

TOWIE star turned TV presenter Mark Wright is fashioning a new career as a catwalk host.

The former *I'm a Celebrity*... contestant has announced his appearance at Style Birmingham Live next month.

He will host all eight catwalk shows at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery's Gas Hall on Saturday and Sunday, September 26 and 27.

The shows will display the latest autumn/winter styles and high street collections and will feature style advice by experts.

Mark said: "I am a big fan of Birmingham."

Tickets include show entry, a drink and goody bag.

### Huxley's classic gets a new run

LAND Girls actress Sophie Ward will star in a new stage adaptation of Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* at the Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton.

First published in 1932, *Brave New World* is considered to be one of the finest dystopian novels of the 20th century. It is set 600 years into the future when human life has been almost entirely industrialised.

The latest production, written by award-winning playwright Dawn King, shows at the Lichfield Street theatre from November 3 to 7.

Ward also appeared as Elizabeth Hardy in the *Young Sherlock Holmes*.

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The interior of the Oddfellows restaurant in Compton, Wolverhampton



Cheesy nachos were little man's preferred starter



A selection of the food including bourbon and apple chicken, and Cajun salmon mains



Shabby chic – The Oddfellows is worth the trip

# Place to be for great pub grub

**NOTHING** stands still for long these days. Even pubs, seen by many as part of the very fabric of traditional British culture, have seen a huge shift in their role in our lives.

The local boozer with its red flock stools, sticky bar mats, cheese and onion crisps and a low-hanging smog of exhaled smoke, are a thing of the past.

Many of those which have survived have moved towards becoming increasingly family-friendly places and have gone down the route of offering the peckish customer more than just a ham sandwich or a packet of scratchings. And one pub I've watched move with times is The Oddfellows at Compton.

Outside, the imposing building looks quite different with a subdued grey-green paint job giving it a more shabby-chic look, which some of my girlfriends had previously commented they weren't sure of, whilst my teenage daughter said she thought it looked great. So I'll take it from that that it's an improvement. As we walked up the steps

By Sarah Moran

and under the distinctive canopy which runs round much of the outside of the pub, a chalkboard declares that Mark and his team welcomed us. And both times, when I came in to book and then when we came to dine we were greeted within less than a minute.

And the efficient service continued as Amy, our waitress, arrived with a smile and the offer of a drink just as we had settled into our seats.

The pub has pretty much retained the same layout as before although the bar now has an added section containing the new rotisserie. The décor too has been given a facelift. Last time we were here there was a build-a-burger option which my son remembered fondly, not least because it gave him the chance to add his favourite food, bacon. This time we decided to share a classic combo, with its onion rings, breaded mushrooms, garlic bread, spicy wedges barbecue sauce and soured cream, while the little man, who recently has lost his own appetite and found a horse's, claimed a starter

of his own and went for the cheese nachos. These came with salsa, guacamole soured cream and, of course, cheese. The sliced red chillis on top proved a bit too much for him so, dad with stepped in to ensure nothing went to waste.

We devoured our own combo which handily came in portions easily divisible by three and proved just the right amount to set us up for our mains.

We'd been quite torn about what to choose as the menu ranges from the classics, or Oddfellows Regulars.

The little man remained true to form and went for one of the gourmet burgers, namely the Yee-ha! Burger, a spicy combination of pulled pork and beef chilli with Monterey Jack cheese.

There's an option to add bits and bobs including bacon and French brie but the he decided against this, which turned out to be a good decision as his portion, served with skins-on chips, coleslaw and onion rings almost proved too much. But dad again stepped up to the plate.

I decided to go for something a little lighter and had the succulent Cajun Salmon which had a nice kick of spice and

came with buttery new potatoes and salad. My husband decided to give the rotisserie a try and had the Bourbon Apple Chicken. The half chicken portion came smothered in a moreish sticky chilli barbecue sauce, served up with buttered corn and coleslaw and fries.

Our daughter also sampled what the rotisserie had to offer with the Two Way Chicken Burger with a tasty Thai sweet chilli marinade option, again served with fries, slaw and onion rings. And like the rest of us, she happily cleared her plate.

But we weren't done for yet and plumped for puddings. Again I opted for a slightly lighter selection with a zingy Sicilian lemon tart, although I must admit I was coveting the little man's melt-in-the-middle chocolate pudding, which tasted as yummy as it looked. And I also tried a corner of the husband's ginger cheesecake which was a really lovely thing.

And so was our meal. Well cooked food in friendly surroundings and a menu which offers plenty of choice. Judging on how busy it always seems to be The Oddfellows is certainly hitting the mark.

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**12 Sept: Richard Beckett soul motown £6**  
**19 Sept: UB40 Experience £10 Entry**  
**25 Sept: Limehouse Lizzy £13 Entry**

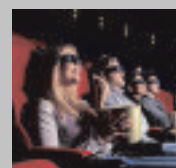
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**Express & Star**



CHOICE



Rita Ora

**The X Factor (ITV, 8pm)**  
New series. The talent show returns for its 12th series with Radio One DJ Nick Grimshaw and singer-songwriter Rita Ora joining Simon Cowell and Cheryl Fernandez-Versini on the judging panel. New presenting duo Caroline Flack and Olly Murs host as the search for a potential music star with an amazing voice and that extra special something begins. Tonight's edition will see the start of the auditions, as hopefuls perform in front of the judges and an arena audience of thousands in the hope of securing a place at Boot Camp.

BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen** Best Bites. **11.30 Football Focus. 12.00 BBC News: Weather. 12.10 Live Athletics:** World Championships. Further coverage of day eight at the Bird's Nest Stadium in Beijing. **2.30 Live Challenge Cup Rugby League.** Hull Kingston Rovers v Leeds Rhinos (Kick-off 3.15pm). **5.25 Film:** Wallace & Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit. (2005) Oscar-winning animated adventure, with the voice of Peter Sallis. **6.45 BBC News. 6.55 Regional Programme. 7.00 Pointless Celebrities.** New series. Alexander Armstrong presents the general knowledge quiz as famous faces from BBC radio programme Test Match Special take part, featuring Graeme Swann and Alison Mitchell, Michael Vaughan and Phil Tufnell, Melinda Farrell and Jonathan Agnew, and Ebony Rainford-Brent and Henry Blofeld. The famous faces try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public. Co-presenter Richard Osman has all the answers. **7.50 The National Lottery: Five Star Family Reunion.** A UK family and their long-lost overseas relatives must work together in order to win a once-in-a-lifetime reunion in a five-star location. The overseas family must answer questions to win time for their relatives in the UK studio, who will then individually answer questions against the clock. Nick Knowles hosts. Includes the all-important weekend draw. **8.45 Casualty.** Part one of two. More than one member of the hospital staff fights for their life after Zoe and Max's wedding reception, while gang violence takes a deadly turn in the department. **9.35 Mrs Brown's Boys.** Agnes fears her family is planning to send her to a nursing home, when in fact it is Spartacus the dog who is set to be sent away. (R) **10.05 BBC News: Weather. 10.25 Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Newcastle United v Arsenal and Chelsea v Crystal Palace; National Lottery Update. **11.55 Weather for the Week Ahead. 12.00 BBC News.**

BBC2

**6.00 Film:** The Westerner. (1940) **7.35 Film:** Big Jim McLean. (1952) **9.00 More Creatures Great and Small. (R) 9.30 More Creatures Great and Small. (R) 10.00 The Women's Football Show. (R) 10.30 Live Athletics:** World Championships. **12.10 Great British Menu. (R) 12.40 Great British Menu. (R) 1.10 Great British Menu. (R) 1.40 Musicals:** Talking Pictures. **2.25 Film:** That's Entertainment! (1974) **4.30 Final Score. 5.30 Gardeners' World. (R) 6.00 Athletics: World Championships Highlights.** Gabby Logan presents action from day eight at the Bird's Nest Stadium in Beijing, including the men's 5,000m and men's and women's 4x100m relays. **7.00 Proms Extra 2015.** Katie Derham looks at the musical highs from the past week in the Royal Albert Hall, and focuses on Bach, Nielsen and Big Band Swing. **7.40 Edwardian Farm.** The team tries to harvest the oat crop but work is disrupted by rain. When they finally manage to bring in the crop, the town celebrates with a fete. Last in the series. (R) **8.40 Dad's Army.** Wilson is put in charge of the platoon when HQ discover that Mainwaring is not a commissioned officer and must join the ranks as a private. (R) **9.10 Sue Perkins' Big Night Out.** Sue hosts a special programme rounding up highlights from this year's Edinburgh festivals, with guests Phill Jupitus, Nina Conti, Katherine Ryan, Adam Hills and rock supergroup FFS. **10.10 Comedy Connections.** The story behind The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin, charting the adaptation of David Nobbs's darkly comic books into an unexpected sitcom success. (R) **10.40 The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin.** The first episode of the classic 1970s comedy, starring Leonard Rossiter as a middle-aged executive stuck in a rut and eager to learn the real meaning of life. Repeated to mark the recent death of writer David Nobbs. (R) **11.10 Jack Dee - So What? A 2013 performance** at London's Hammersmith Apollo by the deadpan comedian in which he tackles life's petty annoyances and everyday frustrations. (R) **12.15 Live Athletics: World Championships. 3.15 This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

**6.00 CITV: The Aquabats!** Super Show! **6.25 Pat & Stan. (R) 6.35 Dino Dan. (R) 6.45 Dino Dan. (R) 7.00 Animals. (R) 7.05 Animals. (R) 7.15 Sooty. (R) 7.30 Super 4. (R) 7.45 Fish Hooks. 8.00 Young Justice: Invasion. (R) 8.25 ITV News. 8.30 Weekend. 9.25 Murder, She Wrote. (R) 10.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 11.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 12.25 ITV News: Weather. 12.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) 1.35 Tipping Point. (R) 2.35 You've Been Framed! (R) 3.05 The Chase. (R) 4.05 Film: Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory. (1971) Musical fantasy, with Gene Wilder. **6.00 Regional Programme: Weather. 6.15 ITV News: Weather. 6.30 You've Been Framed!** Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers. (R) **7.00 Keep It in the Family.** Six Coronation Street stars face the drop and bell ringing act from Canada performs as families from Sunderland and Bradford compete. Fun game show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. **8.00 The X Factor.** New series. The talent show returns for its 12th series with Radio One DJ Nick Grimshaw and singer-songwriter Rita Ora joining Simon Cowell and Cheryl Fernandez-Versini on the judging panel. New presenting duo Caroline Flack and Olly Murs host as the search for a potential music star with an amazing voice and that extra special something begins. Tonight's edition will see the start of the auditions, as hopefuls perform in front of the judges and an arena audience of thousands in the hope of securing a place at Boot Camp. Continues on ITV1 tomorrow at 8pm. **9.30 Through the Keyhole.** New series. Keith Lemon visits mystery celebrity homes and challenges this week's panel - Gina D'Acampo, Sue Cleaver and Johnny Vegas - to guess the identities of the famous owners. **10.30 ITV News: Weather. 10.45 Film: The Bourne Ultimatum.** (2007) The amnesiac assassin regains his memory, just as a CIA director sets in motion a plan to kill him. Spy thriller sequel, starring Matt Damon, Julia Stiles and David Strathairn. **12.45 Jackpot247. 3.00 Show Me the Telly. (R) 3.50 ITV Nightscreen.****

CHANNEL 4

**6.10 How I Met Your Mother. (R) 6.35 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) 7.00 Long Course Weekend. 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 Frasier. (R) 9.30 Frasier. (R) 10.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 10.30 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.00 The Big Bang Theory. (R) 11.30 The Simpsons. (R) 12.00 The Simpsons. (R) 12.30 The Simpsons. (R) 1.00 Rude(ish) Tube. 1.30 Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Goodwood, Beverley and Newmarket. **4.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 4.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.10 Come Dine with Me. (R) 5.40 Come Dine with Me. (R) 6.10 Come Dine with Me.** It is the final evening in Milton Keynes and the turn of competitive salesman Simon to host. He plans for an evening of fine dining, but had not expected sabotage from his guests. (R) **6.35 Channel 4 News. 7.00 Great Canal Journeys.** Veteran actors Timothy West and Prunella Scales head to Liangollen, Denbighshire, where they spent their honeymoon. Reminiscing over how their relationship has survived and thrived over the past 50 years, the pair take in the picturesque sights of the Vale of Llangollen and the Montgomery Canal, before travelling on a horse-drawn barge up the Horseshoe Falls. **8.00 Walking Through History.** Tony Robinson goes on a four-day trek through the Kintail region of the Highlands, examining the story of the early 1700s Jacobite uprisings along the way. (R) **9.00 Film: Side Effects.** (2013) Premiere. A psychiatrist prescribes an experimental new drug to a patient suffering from depression, which seems to miraculously resolve her psychological problems. However, it also results in sleepwalking and disturbing personality changes, with consequences that could destroy the doctor's life. Thriller, starring Jude Law. **11.10 Film: Unknown.** (2011) A doctor wakes up from a coma to find another man is claiming to be him, and any evidence of his real identity has disappeared. Thriller, starring Liam Neeson. **1.20 Film: Stranger by the Lake.** (2013) **3.10 Hollyoaks. (R) 5.25 1001 Things You Should Know. (R) 5.50 How I Met Your Mother. (R)****

CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 SpongeBob SquarePants. 10.35 Access. 10.50 Cowboy Builders. (R) 11.50 Film:** When Hell Broke Loose. (1958) **1.25 Film:** Patton. (1970) Second World War biopic, starring George C. Scott. **4.45 Film:** Operation Daybreak. (1975) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Timothy Bottoms and Martin Shaw. **7.00 5 News Weekend. 7.05 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door.** The documentary focuses on two disputes that developed from complaints about noise-making to become far more serious quarrels, one of which took a tragic, life-changing turn. (R) **8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Paul Bohill and Ben Pinner are called in to evict squatters from a residential property, and it soon becomes clear that things are not quite what they seem. Brian O'Shaughnessy and Graham Aldred arrive at a restaurant in north London to collect unpaid rent, but the situation becomes heated and the debtors make accusations to the police that could ruin the High Court enforcement agents' careers. (R) **9.00 Football League Tonight.** Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, as well as all the goals from the Championship, League One and League Two, including Derby County v Leeds United, Sheffield Wednesday v Middlesbrough and Nottingham Forest v Cardiff City. Plus, a round-up of the main talking points, and interviews with a selection of players and managers. **10.30 Celebrity Big Brother.** Highlights of the famous residents' past 24 hours under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, as they try to get used to their housemates' quirks and foibles while also coping with the day-to-day complications of life inside the house. **11.30 Tattoo Disasters UK.** People who regret their tattoos share the stories behind them, including a woman who was desperate to erase a former partner's name from her wrist. (R) **12.00 SuperCasino. 3.10 Celebrity Big Brother. (R) 4.00 Transporter: The Series. 4.50 Make It Big. (R) 5.45 Angels of Jarm. (R)**

DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00** Don't Tell the Bride **8.00** Top Gear India Special **9.30** Doc: Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (2010) **11.20** Family Guy **1.40** Top Coppers **2.10** Fried **2.40** Russell Howard's Good News **3.10** Impractical Jokers **3.40** Sunny D **4.00** Close  
**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Giant Otters of the Amazon: Natural World **8.00** Sicily Unpacked **9.00** The Young Montalbano **10.40** Metallica @ Reading 2015 **12.10** Heavy Metal Britannia **1.40** Classic Albums **2.35** Giant Otters of the Amazon: Natural World **3.35** Close  
**ITV2**  
**12.00** The X Factor: Nick & Rita's Top 10 **1.05** Film: Kangaroo Jack (2003) **2.50** Film: Homeaway Bound II: Lost in San Francisco (1996) **4.40** A Night in with Olly Murs **5.45** The X Factor: Your Top Ten **6.45** Film: Hulk (2003) **9.30** The Xtra Factor **10.35** Film: American Pie Presents Band Camp (2005) **12.25** Film: Mickey Blue Eyes (1999) **2.30** Rixton: The Hot Desk **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**12.05** Sherlock Holmes: The Hound of the Baskervilles **2.20** Wycliffe **3.25** A Touch of Frost **5.25** Film: Columbo: Fade In to Murder (1976) **7.00** Doc: Martin **8.00** Lewis **10.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **12.00** Wire in the Blood **1.30** On the Buses **1.55** Movies **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping  
**ITV4**  
**11.45** Storage Wars **12.40** Cycling **1.45** British Superbike Championship Highlights **2.45** Live International Rugby Union: 5.00 British Touring Car Championship Highlights **6.30** Storage Wars **7.00** Cycling **8.00** World Series of Darts: Auckland **11.30** Film: National Lampoon's Vacation (1983) **1.35** Cycling **2.30** Movies **Now 2.40** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**11.00** Baby Daddy **12.00** Made in Chelsea LA **1.00** Melissa & Joey **2.00** The Goldbergs **3.00** How I Met Your Mother **4.00** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.30** The Big Bang Theory: It All Started with a Big Bang **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** Film: Bad Teacher (2011) **10.50** Rude Tube **11.55** Bad Robots **12.25** Gogglebox **2.30** How I Met Your Mother **3.15** The Cleveland Show **4.00** Rules of Engagement **4.50** Revenge **Film4**  
**11.00** Treasure Island (1972) **1.00** Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World (2011) **2.40** The Addams Family (1991) **4.40** Rio (2011) **6.30** Pride and Prejudice (2005) **9.00** I, Robot (2004) **11.15** Maniac (2012) **1.00** Troll Hunter (2010) **3.15** Close

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## CHOICE



Ray Winstone

**The Trials of Jimmy Rose (ITV, 9pm)**  
Casting Ray Winstone in a TV drama is always a good move – but recruiting his Sexy Beast co-star Amanda Redman to play his estranged wife makes the new three-parter The Trials of Jimmy Rose unmissable. It follows the eponymous Jimmy (Winstone), an armed robber who has just been released following a 12-year prison sentence. He's looking forward to being reunited with his family, but they have much more mixed feelings about having him home, with wife Jackie (Redman) admitting she's not sure she still loves him. However, the biggest shock comes when he discovers that his granddaughter Ellie is now a drug addict. Can Jimmy's quest to find her and get her clean provide a route back into his family?

## BBC1

**6.00 Breakfast. 7.30 Match of the Day.** (R) **9.00 BBC News.** **10.00 Sunday Morning Live.** **11.00 Wanted Down Under Revisited.** (R) **12.00 Bargain Hunt.** (R) **1.00 BBC News: Weather.** **1.15 Homes Under the Hammer.** (R) **2.15 Flog It!** (R) **2.55 Escape to the Country.** (R) **3.55 The Great British Bake Off.** (R) **4.55 Songs of Praise – Gospel Choir of the Year.** **5.35 BBC News.** **5.50 Regional Programme.**

**6.00 Countryfile.** Matt Baker visits a farm in Buckinghamshire at harvest time, where old-fashioned methods are used to bring in prehistoric varieties of wheat. Ellie Harrison reports from the harvest at a government licensed crop of opium poppies and a scheme to preserve the harvest mouse. Adam Henson prepares for harvest on his own farm, and John Craven is joined by Bill Bailey and Naomi Wilkinson to choose the 12 finalists for this year's photographic competition. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

**7.00 Big Blue Live.** Steve Backshall tries to spot blue whales from the sky, while Liz Bonnin joins scientists tagging the animals. Plus, a baby sea otter with a vital role to play. Last in the series.

**8.00 Casualty.** Part two of two. The team rallies around to save Charlie following his heart attack, but with gang violence threatening to engulf the hospital, tensions are running high.

**9.00 Partners in Crime.** Part three of three. Tuppence comes to the rescue when Tommy is captured by the mysterious "N", and the race is on to find the key that operates the stolen bomb. Last in the series.

**10.00 BBC News.**

**10.10 Regional Programme.**

**10.30 Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Southampton v Norwich City and Swansea City v Manchester United.

**11.30 Film: In the Valley of Elah.** (2007) The life of a missing soldier suspects the army is covering up the reasons behind his son's disappearance. Drama, starring Tommy Lee Jones.

**1.20 Weather for the Week Ahead.** **1.25 BBC News.**

## BBC2

**6.00 Life in a Cottage Garden** with Carol Klein. (R) **6.30 Countryfile.** (R) **7.30 Gardeners' World.** (R) **8.00 The Beechgrove Garden.** **8.30 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites.** **10.00 Great British Menu.** (R) **10.30 Great British Menu.** (R) **11.00 Live Athletics: World Championships.** **2.30 Film: That's Entertainment Part Two.** (1976) **4.00 Nature's Wildest Events.** (R) **5.00 Jungle Atlantis.** (R)

**6.00 World's Busiest Railway 2015.** Dan Snow, Anila Rani, Robert Llewellyn and John Sergeant go behind the scenes at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus to learn what it takes to run the station. (R)

**7.00 Athletics: World Championships Highlights.** Gabby Logan presents action from the ninth and final day at the Bird's Nest Stadium in Beijing, as medals were handed out in the final seven disciplines.

**8.00 Dragons' Den.** A former banker seeks funding to renovate a London underground station, a man cycles into the studio to promote his business, and a farmer has plans to launch a range of drinks.

**9.00 Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week.** New series. Andrew Flintoff presents a show in which contestants go through the training regimes of elite military forces from around the world, beginning with America's Navy Seals.

**10.00 Odyssey.** A shaman forces Odelle to confront the ghosts of her recent past. Peter reaches his lowest ebb, and Ruby and Harrison leave for a romantic getaway.

**10.40 Family Guy.** Meg is thrilled to be recruited as a model – but not everything is as it seems with the job. Meanwhile, Brian accompanies Stewie on a road trip adventure.

**11.05 Family Guy.** Peter becomes an intelligent, classy person.

**11.25 Family Guy.** Chris dates Jerome's daughter Pam.

**11.45 Film: Black Sheep.** (2006) A farmer performs genetic experiments on his flock of sheep, giving the animals an insatiable appetite for human flesh. Comedy horror, starring Nathan Meister.

**1.10 Sign Zone: Countryfile.** (R) **2.05 Holy City.** (R) **3.05 This is BBC Two.**

## ITV

**6.00 CITV: The Aquabats!** Super Show! **6.25 Pat & Stan.** (R) **6.35 Dino Dan.** (R) **6.45 Dino Dan.** (R) **7.00 Animals.** (R) **7.05 Animals.** (R) **7.15 Sooty.** (R) **7.30 Super 4.** (R) **7.45 Fish Hooks.** **8.00 Young Justice: Invasion.** (R) **8.25 ITV News.** **8.30 Weekend.** **9.25 Murder, She Wrote.** (R) **10.20 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **11.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **12.25 ITV News: Weather.** **12.35 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R) **1.35 The X Factor.** (R) **3.05 Film: Casino Royale.** (1967) Spool James Bond adventure, starring David Niven. **5.30 The Chase.** (R)

**6.30 Regional Programme: Weather.** **6.35 ITV News: Weather.**

**7.00 Animal Mums.** How animals raise their young, revealing how elephants and vervet monkeys will work together to look after all the youngsters in a social group. The programme also features a lioness with eight boisterous cubs and sheep farmers who reveal how lambs learn to recognise their mothers' voices, reveals how gannets and seals find their way back to their offspring, and demonstrates some bad behaviour among young goats and orangutans.

**8.00 The X Factor.** Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present more coverage of the audition process. Another batch of applicants perform in front of judges Simon Cowell, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Nick Grimshaw and Rita Ora, as well as an arena audience of thousands, in the hope of winning one of the coveted places in the series' boot camp.

**9.00 The Trials of Jimmy Rose.** New series. Drama, starring Ray Winstone as a former armed robber trying to get his life in order and reconnect with his family after being released from prison.

**10.00 ITV News: Weather.**

**10.20 56 Up.** Documentary exploring the lives of people first filmed in 1964, when they were seven years old, revealing how their views have changed with the passage of time. Last in the series. (R)

**11.25 Premiership Rugby 7s Series.** Action from finals night at The Stoop.

**12.20 Jackpot247.** **3.00 Motorsport UK.** **3.50 British Superbike Championship Highlights.** **4.40 ITV Nightscreen.** **5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show.** (R)

## CHANNEL 4

**6.15 How I Met Your Mother.** (R) **6.40 The Grid.** **7.10 British GT.** **7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond.** (R) **8.30 Frasier.** (R) **9.00 Frasier.** (R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch.** **12.30 Amazing Spaces.** **Shed of the Year 2015.** (R) **1.30 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **2.00 The Big Bang Theory.** (R) **2.30 The Simpsons.** (R) **3.00 The Simpsons.** (R) **3.25 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent.** **4.30 Location, Location, Location.** (R) **5.35 A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.**

**6.30 Channel 4 News.**

**7.00 The Great Wall of China: The Hidden Story – Secret History.** With access to the first nationwide survey and state-of-the-art drones mapping the Great Wall of China, this documentary offers new evidence that reveals its extraordinary magnitude, rewrites its millennia-long history and decodes its complex signals system. (R)

**8.00 Time Crashers.** Tony Robinson gives celebrity time travellers Kirstie Alley, Fern Britton, Louise Minchin, Zoe Smith, Greg Mathews, Keith Allen, Greg Rutherford, Charlie Condou, Jermaine Jenas and Chris Ramsey a taste of life in 1468. They are split into two teams and assigned to work as squires for two knights preparing to face each other in a jousting tournament. They must take on an assortment of tasks, including mending armour, preparing horses and taking their master's urine to be checked for diseases by a physician.

**9.00 Film: The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel.** (2011) Seven English pensioners looking for a fresh start are drawn to an advert for a hotel in the Indian city of Jaipur, and plan to spend their retirement there. They arrive to find the building dilapidated but are won over by the enthusiastic young manager, and each embarks on their own adventures in the city. Comedy drama, starring Judi Dench and Bill Nighy.

**11.25 Film: One Day.** (2011) The 20-year friendship between two university graduates is explored through the anniversaries of their first meeting. Romantic drama, starring Anne Hathaway.

**1.25 Film: Tom at the Farm.** (2013) **3.10 Come Dine with Me.** (R) **4.30 1001 Things You Should Know.** (R)

## CHANNEL 5

**6.00 Milkshake!** Peppa Pig. **6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas.** (R) **6.20 Pip Ashby!** (R) **6.30 The Mr Men Show.** (R) **6.40 Chloë's Closet.** (R) **6.55 Make Way for Noddy.** (R) **7.05 Paw Patrol.** **7.20 Little Princess.** (R) **7.35 Wanda and the Alien.** (R) **7.45 Zack and Quack.** (R) **8.00 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom.** (R) **8.15 Jelly Jamm.** (R) **8.35 LazyTown.** (R) **9.05 Dora and Friends.** (R) **9.30 SpongeBob SquarePants.** **10.05 Football League Tonight.** (R) **11.35 Police Interceptors.** (R) **12.30 Police Interceptors.** (R) **1.25 Film: CutThroat Island.** (1995) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Geena Davis. **3.45 Film: Paul Blart: Mall Cop.** (2009) Comedy, starring Kevin James. **5.30 Film: Superman.** (1978) Comic-strip adventure, starring Christopher Reeve.

**8.05 Police Interceptors Unleashed with Winnie Jones.** After officers foil a robbery at a jewellers, the ensuing car chase ends with a helicopter following the suspects through pitch black countryside, while a tracker on a stolen car leads to an Aladdin's cave of a warehouse. Plus, everything stops on a drugs raid when a courier turns up with a mystery package, and a leaky Lamborghini is not what it first seems. Winnie Jones presents. (R)

**8.55 5 News Weekend.**

**9.00 Celebrity Big Brother.** A chance to catch up with the latest events inside the house as the celebrities cope with living under constant surveillance, with all the arguments and alliances, as well as the revelations in the diary room.

**10.00 20 Moments that Rocked the 80s.** Cherie Lunghi presents a countdown of memorable moments, including royal weddings, political scandals, sporting triumphs and the rise to fame of iconic entertainers.

**11.30 Film: Shoot 'Em Up.** (2007) A mysterious gun-toting stranger delivers a baby, which he then has to protect from a horde of assassins. Action adventure, starring Clive Owen, Paul Giamatti and Monica Bellucci.

**1.00 SuperCasino.** Live interactive gaming. **3.10 Inside Scientology – and Escaping the Witnesses.** The stories of three women who believed that they were trapped in cults. (R) **4.00 House Doctor.** (R) **4.25 Make It Big.** (R) **5.45 Angels of Jarm.** (R)

## DIGITAL

**BBC Three**  
**7.00 Don't Tell the Bride** **8.00 Top Gear** **9.00 Film: Deep Impact** (1998) **10.55 Russell Howard's Good News Extra** **11.45 Family Guy** **12.30 American Dad!** **12.50 Family Guy** **1.10 Fried** **1.40 Top Coppers** **2.10 Secrets of China** **3.10 Russell Howard's Good News Extra** **3.55 Great Movie Mistakes** **4.00 Close**

**BBC Four**  
**7.00 BBC Proms Sunday Symphony** **8.00 Horizon: Playing God** **9.00 Rich Hall's You Can Go to Hell, I'm Going to Texas** **10.30 The Libertines @ Reading** **2015** **12.00 Film: Wallander: The White Lioness** (1996) **1.40 Sound of Cinema: The Music That Made the Movies** **2.40 Sean Connery: In His Own Words** **3.40 Close**

**ITV2**

**12.25 The X Factor: Your Top Ten** **1.30 Film: Small Soldiers** (1998) **3.40 You've Been Framed** **4.40 The X Factor** **5.45 The Xtra Factor** **6.50 Film: Dante's Peak** (1997) **9.00 The Xtra Factor** **10.00 Film: Rush Hour** (1998) **12.05 Sawtooth** **12.50 Fake Reaction** **1.30 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records** **1.55 The Funniest Moments** **2.15 Teleshopping** **5.45 ITV2 Nightscreen**

**ITV3**

**12.35 Agatha Christie's Marple** **4.40 A Touch of Frost** **6.40 Inspector Morse** **9.00 The Mighty Mississippi with Trevor McDonald** **10.00 Birds of a Feather** **10.30 Northern Lights** **11.30 Film: The Human Stain** (2003) **1.35 Blue Murder** **2.50 ITV3 Nightscreen** **3.15 Emmerdale**

**ITV4**

**11.20 Hogan's Heroes** **11.55 Cycling** **12.55 Storage Wars: New York** **1.50 Storage Wars** **2.20 Film: Deströy (1954)** **4.15 Film: Gunsmoke** (1953) **6.00 BRDC Formula 4 Championship Highlights** **7.00 Cycling** **8.00 Premiership Rugby 7s Series** **9.00 World Series of Darts: Auckland** **12.30 Hogan's Heroes** **1.05 Cycling** **2.00 Hell on Wheels** **2.40 ITV4 Nightscreen** **3.00 Teleshopping**

**E4**

**12.35 Couples Come Dine with Me** **2.35 Bad(ish) Robots** **3.05 Rude(ish) Tube** **3.30 Film: Arqus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging** (2008) **5.35 The Big Bang Theory** **10.00 Gogglebox** **12.05 Young, Free & Single** **1.10 Rules of Engagement** **2.05 Melissa & Joey** **2.30 Gogglebox** **3.25 Hollyoaks**

**Film4**

**11.00 Anastasia** (1997) **1.00 Hairpray** (2007) **3.15 Dr Seuss' The Lorax** (2012) **4.55 Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days** (2012) **6.45 The Eagle** (2011) **9.00 Rise of the Planet of the Apes** (2011) **11.05 Hellboy** (2004) **1.40 Dead of Night** (1972)

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FILM CHOICES

**MONDAY**  
**Profile for Murder, Channel 5, 3.15pm**  
A criminal profiler retires to live in California with her family and move on from the horrific crime that ended her career. Her idyllic life is shattered when she discovers the serial killer responsible has escaped from prison and is intent on terrorising her. Thriller, starring Nicki Aycox and Steve Bacic. (2013)

**TUESDAY**  
**Deadly Suspicion, Channel 5, 3.20pm**  
The estranged members of the Darville family are reunited when their patriarch, a prominent politician, is murdered. However, one of them is missing - an unstable daughter who was abandoned in a mental institution years before. When news reaches them that she escaped on the night of the killing, they realise she could be the culprit - and they could be next. Thriller, starring Marilu Henner. (2008)



Gone Baby Gone, Friday, BBC1, 11.35pm

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Obsessed, BBC1, 11.35pm**  
An executive with a successful job and a happy family life finds his world crumbling around him when a temporary worker is assigned to his office. The new arrival becomes fixated on him, going to desperate lengths to seduce him. Thriller, starring Idris Elba, Beyonce Knowles and Ali Larter. (2009)

**THURSDAY**  
**Deadly Daycare, Channel 5, 3.20pm**  
A divorcee suspects a daycare centre of mistreating her young daughter. When the girl's increasingly awkward behaviour arouses suspicion, the mother plants a hidden camera on the premises. Thriller, with Kayla Ewell. (2014)

**FRIDAY**  
**Gone Baby Gone, BBC1, 11.35pm**  
A tough Boston neighbourhood becomes the centre of a media circus when a four-year-old girl goes missing. A private detective is reluctantly drawn into the case when the child's aunt hires him to find her, and while investigating around the area where he grew up, he uncovers secrets and deceit surrounding the disappearance. Drama, with Casey Affleck. (2007)

Katie and guests hit all the right notes

Apparently, just as a performance is about to begin, acclaimed British double bassist Chi-Chi Nwanoku feels as if she's taking her marks at the starting blocks on an athletics track.

Then, when the conductor's baton comes down, Nwanoku is straight out of the blocks, working towards the finishing line.

Actually, this admission from the London-based musician of Nigerian and Irish descent isn't that surprising, because from the age of eight, Chi-Chi was destined for an international career as a 100-metre sprinter.

At 16, she narrowly missed qualifying for the 1972 Munich Olympics, and two years later was on track for the next Games in Montreal.

Then disaster struck - a knee injury meant that she could never again compete at a national level. Devastated, she returned to school, and thankfully discovered that fate had something positive in store for her - music.

Nowadays, Nwanoku is established as principal bass with the Orchestra of

the Age of Enlightenment, as well as being a chamber-music performer and professor of double-bass studies at London's Trinity College of Music.

She is also the host of a weekly requests programme on BBC Radio 3 and was a jury member of BBC2's Classical Star.

Tonight, she joins Katie Derham for this week's jam-packed edition of weekly magazine show Proms Extra.

The pair will be joined by baritone Roderick Williams, who may be feeling a little sleepy after performing Bach's much-loved Magnificat, Mass in G minor and Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 alongside the BBC Singers and the Academy of Ancient Music during last night's Late Night Prom at the Royal Albert Hall.

Williams will also be looking forward to his next Proms appearance on September 11 when he is taking to the stage alongside conductor Sir Simon Rattle and the Vienna Philharmonic to sing part of Elgar's intoxicating The Dream of Gerontius.

Among the other Proms highlights up for discussion tonight are Bach's solo

violin works, which were performed so memorably by violinist Alina Ibragimova at the end of July.

Katie, Chi-Chi and Roderick also look back on the National Youth Orchestra's annual visit to the Proms a fortnight ago where they focused on Mahler's bitterly beautiful Ninth Symphony.

Their concert also opened with the world premiere of Tansy Davies's Re-greening, a celebration of spring written specially as a complement to Mahler's aforementioned work.

Finally, there is footage and discussion of Daniel Barenboim's West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, who performed at the Albert Hall on Tuesday in a concert that was broadcast last night on BBC4.

Barenboim took to the piano to play a trio of challenging pieces - Beethoven's Triple Concerto, Schoenberg's Chamber Symphony and Tchaikovsky's Fourth Symphony.

And if all that wasn't enough, David Owen Norris once again gets 'Inside the Score' - delving deeper into the some of the music heard at the 121st season of the Proms.



Katie Derham features in Proms Extra 2015, Saturday, BBC2, 7pm

BEST OF THE REST

**MONDAY**  
**Travel Guides**  
**ITV, 9pm**  
The tourists stay closer to home as they sample what the Lake District has to offer. The Boyles from Dorset are amazed by the jaw-dropping scenery, but soon question if a small caravan is enough to accommodate their lively brood of kids, while a trip to Keswick pencil museum does nothing to convince Honor Chapman-Blackwell and her boyfriend Jonjo of the area's charms. Simon and Jayne Brearley face a battle persuading son Ben of the pleasures of hiking up a hill, while a trip to a local climbing centre nearly spells disaster for model Riah. Last in the series.

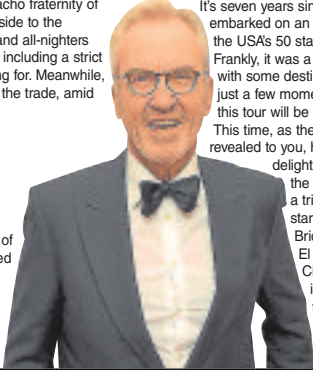
**Muslim Drag Queens**  
**Channel 4, 10pm**  
Ian McKellen narrates this First Cut documentary providing unprecedented insight into the UK's clandestine gay Asian community, which provides a vital lifeline and haven for young men who are unable to publicly reconcile their sexuality with their cultural identity and traditions. The film focuses on the stories of three of the 100 to 150 Muslim drag queens who face the seemingly insurmountable challenge of gaining acceptance and tolerance within their own communities.

**TUESDAY**  
**New Tricks**  
**BBC1, 9pm**  
Ted leads an investigation into the apparent suicide of a city trader who was embroiled in the cut-throat world of London's financial district in the 1980s. As the team delve deeper into the macho fraternity of 'The Wolfpack', they find a darker side to the debauchery, secret hand signals and all-nighters that bonded the traders together - including a strict hierarchy that might be worth killing for. Meanwhile, Steve tries to learn some tricks of the trade, amid his own financial crisis.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Witnesses**  
**Channel 4, 10pm**  
Kaz Gorbier is now in police custody, seemingly removing the immediate threat, but the mystery of who has been placing the exhumed bodies in various show-homes remains unsolved. Paul and Sandra push their abilities to the limit as they work to achieve closure, and as their investigation draws closer to its conclusion, dark secrets from Le TrEport's

past begin to resurface - with devastating consequences.

**THURSDAY**  
**Stephen Fry's Central America**  
**ITV, 9pm**



New Tricks, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

to Chihuahua, he meets some of the area's cowboys.

**FRIDAY**  
**Ripper Street**  
**BBC1, 9pm**  
Long Susan has convinced the world her solicitor Capshaw shot Reid and was solely responsible for the train crash, and while the inspector remains in a coma Drake and Jackson struggle to cope. Meanwhile, a destructive gang of youths unleashes hell upon the streets by night, murdering a pub landlord. The trail leads detectives into the heartland of one of the city's oldest trades - the London Breweries - where conflicted loyalties reign and grief and anger create a potent concoction.

**BBQ Champ**  
**ITV, 9pm**  
Mylene Klass turns up the heat as the competition reaches its mouth-watering finale, and you have to hand it to her - it must have taken a phenomenal amount of effort to remain so slim while being surrounded by a seemingly endless array of tasty treats. She faces temptation one last time tonight, as the four remaining contestants pull out all the stops in the battle to be crowned BBQ Champ 2015, and take home a cash prize of £25,000.

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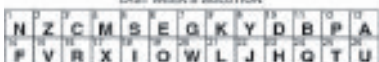
# BRAIN GYM No.340

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

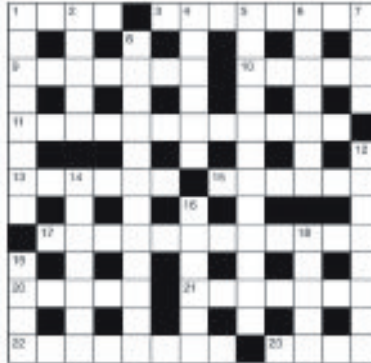
### Cryptic Clues:

#### Across

1. Toothed bar needed for the stochol (4)
2. Chari is contained by them, being powerful government groups (6)
- 3 & 8Ds. Extraordinary impression produced by journalists (7,7)
4. Not even second-best (5)
5. Widespread emotionalism of the church service? (4,8)
6. Worried account the supper left on the ship (6)
7. It's in the optic or nearby (6)
8. Analysing what the faulty machine is doing (6,4)
9. Piece that gives one ball, maybe (5)
10. Journalist (7)
11. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
12. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
13. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
14. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
15. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
16. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
17. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
18. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
19. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
20. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
21. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
22. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
23. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
24. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
25. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)
26. Fellow showing his years, being responsible for discipline (8)

#### Down

1. Fragrant plant got up by contrary gut (6)
2. Sea 20 Across
3. Finally, the mountain near the capital of Tunisia (2,4)
4. Where Phaedraiden made his name, eventually (2,3,4,5)
5. Sea 9 Across
6. Is love I'd expect some less (4)
7. What illustrated newspaper prints? (5,7)
8. Principal support for a day under the sea (6)
9. Pins are needed for kind of carpet (7)
10. Part of the musician's pants another way (5)
11. Alternatively, one is seen by the Spanish window (5)
12. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
13. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
14. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
15. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
16. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
17. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
18. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
19. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
20. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
21. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
22. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
23. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
24. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
25. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)
26. Symbol of victory seen on every hand (4)



### Quick Clues:

#### Across

1. Remove (4)
2. Banqueting (6)
3. Unfamiliar (7)
4. Agency (5)
5. Genuineness (12)
6. Gradual (6)
7. Coloured pencil (6)
8. Felicitate (12)
9. Foreign (8)
10. Gaseous (7)
11. Diffuse (8)
12. Skull (4)

#### Down

1. Remoteness (8)
2. Foremost (5)
3. Happenings (8)
4. Half-round (12)
5. Unusually (7)
6. Sport (4)
7. Cleanness (12)
8. Inborn (8)
9. Tides (7)
10. Plague (6)
11. Similar (5)
12. Hairless (4)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS:

4	9	3	2	1	5	6	7	8
6	2	5	7	1	8	9	4	3
3	7	1	5	8	4	2	6	9
8	4	2	6	9	3	7	1	5
1	5	8	4	2	6	9	3	7
9	3	7	1	5	8	4	2	6
2	6	9	3	7	1	5	8	4
5	8	4	2	6	9	3	7	1
7	1	5	8	4	2	6	9	3

## Thinking space

Due to production problems, an incorrect brain gym was published last week.

Solutions to number 337, published in the August 13 edition are as follows:

- Across: 6 Fission; 7 Best; 9 Gey; 18 Epsilon; 12 With reserve; 15 In a hot state; 17 High level; 19 Dry; 21 Kiosk; 22 Decade; Down: 1 Hoops; 2 Ace; 3 Boss; 4 Grains; 5 Pencil; 6 Lined; 11 Mithras; 13 Hedge; 14 Knight; 16 Shade; 18 Ever; 19 Don; 20 Clock; 21 Jockey; 22 Jet; 23 Act; 24 Decade; 25 Pencil; 26 Kiosk; 27 Dry; 28 Kiosk; 29 Decade; 30 Jet; 31 Act; 32 Decade; 33 Jet; 34 Kiosk; 35 Decade; 36 Jet; 37 Act; 38 Decade; 39 Jet; 40 Kiosk; 41 Decade; 42 Jet; 43 Act; 44 Decade; 45 Jet; 46 Kiosk; 47 Decade; 48 Jet; 49 Act; 50 Decade; 51 Jet; 52 Kiosk; 53 Decade; 54 Jet; 55 Act; 56 Decade; 57 Jet; 58 Kiosk; 59 Decade; 60 Jet; 61 Act; 62 Decade; 63 Jet; 64 Kiosk; 65 Decade; 66 Jet; 67 Act; 68 Decade; 69 Jet; 70 Kiosk; 71 Decade; 72 Jet; 73 Act; 74 Decade; 75 Jet; 76 Kiosk; 77 Decade; 78 Jet; 79 Act; 80 Decade; 81 Jet; 82 Kiosk; 83 Decade; 84 Jet; 85 Act; 86 Decade; 87 Jet; 88 Kiosk; 89 Decade; 90 Jet; 91 Act; 92 Decade; 93 Jet; 94 Kiosk; 95 Decade; 96 Jet; 97 Act; 98 Decade; 99 Jet; 100 Kiosk; 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# Luxury bungalow with large driveway on sale



DELIGHTFULLY situated in a quiet cul-de-sac and close to all local amenities, this spacious and well-maintained detached bungalow in Greaves Close, Walsall, has deceptively versatile accommodation.

A short distance from the town centre and well-placed for commuting, it is for sale through Edwards Moore at £349,950.

It has a porch, a reception hall, an impressive through lounge/dining room, a breakfast kitchen, with a breakfast bar.

There is also a large utility room, guest WC and inner lobby. Bedroom one (en suite) has a built-in wardrobe. There are two further bedrooms with wardrobes, a large family bathroom.

Outside there is a garage, a large sweeping block-paved driveway. Call Edwards Moore on 01922 615222 or visit [www.edwardsmoore.co.uk](http://www.edwardsmoore.co.uk)



## Superb detached in a desirable area

A WONDERFULLY situated and substantial four-bedroom detached on a wide plot on Perton Ridge, Silver Birches in Patterham Road is for sale through Berriman Eaton at £895,000.

Having an excellent blend of formal and informal rooms together with four bedrooms and three bathrooms, planning permission was granted in 2011 for extensions to the first-floor accommodation.

With solar panels providing electricity with the surplus being sold back to the electricity company, it also has two air source units working in tandem to provide central heating, underfloor heating and hot water. Contact Berriman Eaton on 01902 747744 or visit [www.berrimaneaton.co.uk](http://www.berrimaneaton.co.uk)



Chartered Surveyors



Estate Agents



EPC: D

### ARUNDEL ROAD, SHORT HEATH

- . Detached House
- . Three Bedrooms
- . Lounge / Dining Room
- . Bathroom, Cloakroom
- . UPVC DG, GCH
- . Garage

£625pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

### MILL LANE, BUTTS, WALSALL

- . Terraced House
- . Lounge
- . Dining Room
- . Kitchen, Bathroom
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Part DG, GCH

£495pcm - plus fees



EPC: C

### LEIGH COURT, WALSALL

- . Ground Floor Flat
- . Two Bedrooms
- . Lounge, Bathroom
- . Kitchen With Appliances
- . UPVC DG, GCH
- . Parking, Communal Gardens

£495pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

### PEREGRINE HOUSE, WALSALL

- . Second Floor Flat
- . Two bedrooms
- . Lounge & Kitchen
- . Bathroom
- . Warm Air Heating
- . Communal Gardens

£475pcm - plus fees



EPC: C

### COTTERELL COURT, WALSALL

- . Ground Floor Flat
- . One Bedroom
- . Lounge / Kitchen
- . Bathroom
- . Storage Cupboard
- . UPVC DG & Electric Heaters

£390pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

### CAMPION CLOSE, TAMEBRIDGE

- . Town House
- . Lounge / Kitchen
- . One Bedroom
- . Bathroom
- . GCH, UPVC DG
- . Parking Space

£385pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

### THE SADDLERY, WALSALL

- . Second Floor Flat
- . One Bedroom, Hallway
- . Lounge, Re decorated
- . Kitchen With Appliances
- . Bathroom With Shower
- . Electric Heating

£375pcm - plus fees



EPC: E

### ABLEWELL STREET, WALSALL

- . First Floor
- . Split Level Flat
- . One Bedroom
- . Reception Hall
- . Lounge & Kitchen
- . Bathroom & GCH

£365pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

### BIRMINGHAM STREET, WILLENHALL

- . Flat First Floor
- . One Bedroom
- . Lounge, Shower Room
- . Kitchen
- . Gas Central Heating
- . Allocated Parking Space

£325pcm - plus fees



EPC: D

### IMPERIAL BUILDINGS, WALSALL

- . Second Floor Flat
- . One Bedroom
- . Lounge, Kitchen
- . Shower Room
- . Storage Heating
- . Town Centre Location

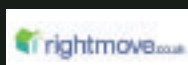
£350pcm - plus fees

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# Deceptively spacious home

0121 200 1100  
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**BK** Bruton Knowles

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**Residential Development Site**  
**Pennfields, Wolverhampton**  
**WV3 7BJ**



- 0.99 hectares (2.45 acres)
- Outline Planning Permission granted
- For Sale by Informal Tender - Closing Date 12noon 16th October 2015

Contact: matthew.klison@brutenknowles.co.uk

BK code: 2707



IN a choice cul-de-sac location in one of the most sought after residential areas of Tettenhall, 6 Saxonfields is a deceptive detached property that has been carefully extended and restyled.

An ideal family house, it is for sale through Thomas Harvey at £380,000.

It has an entrance hall, a WC/shower room, front living room, dining room, additional good-sized sitting room, spacious open-plan dining kitchen, a double garage, a first-floor landing, four bedrooms, master en suite, a bathroom with a spa bath and a mature enclosed private rear garden.

For further information contact Thomas Harvey on 01902 758111 or visit [www.thomasharvey.co.uk](http://www.thomasharvey.co.uk)



## Studio flat with price of £64,500

THIS ground floor one-bedroomed studio flat in Abbots Way, Wolverhampton is the perfect investment property or first home.

It is for sale through Goodchilds at offers in excess of £64,500 with no chain.

It has one bedroom, a lounge with a feature fireplace and storage cupboard, a fitted kitchen with a door out to the rear, a bathroom with a modern white suite including a bath and overhead shower, splashback tiling and tiled flooring and a private hard landscaped rear garden ideal for sitting out in and off road parking.

For further information contact Goodchilds on 01902 267111 or visit the website [www.goodchilds-uk.com](http://www.goodchilds-uk.com)



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at Aston Villa Football Ground



**57 Dorsett Road, Wednesbury**  
3 Bed Semi Detached Property  
Guide: £65,000 plus



**119 Princes Avenue, Walsall**  
5 Bed Semi Detached Property  
Guide: £210,000



**32 Cemetery Road, Willenhall**  
3 Bed End Terrace House  
Guide: £35,000 - £40,000



**17 Lewis Street, Bilston**  
3 Bed Residential Investment  
Current Gross Income: £7,200 pa.  
Guide: £28,000 - £32,000



**36 Arboretum Road, Walsall**  
Investment comprising of 7 Flats  
Current Gross Income: £28,082.52 pa.  
Guide: £225,000 plus



**219 Bloxwich Road, Walsall**  
Investment comprising of 4 Flats  
Current Gross Income: £20,880 pa.  
Guide: £230,000 - £240,000

**T: 0121 233 5046**

**W: [cpbigwood.com](http://cpbigwood.com)**

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\*Please note charges may apply in addition to the purchase price on some lots \*For a definition of Guide Price & Reserve price please refer to our catalogue or website



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01902 505971

**Walsall**  
01922 460781

**Bilston**  
01902 505974

**Bridgewater Drive Bilston** **NEW**



- Link Detached Residence with Further Potential for Extensions (subject to planning permission)
- No Upward Chain
- Gas Central Heating & Gas Central Heating

Offers in the region of Viewing: **£139,950**

**Rough Hills Road Bilston** **NEW**



- Semi Detached
- No Upwards Chain
- Porch and Reception Hall
- Lounge And Conservatory,

Viewing: **£95,000**

**Webb Street Bilston** **REDUCED**



- Refurbished Semi Detached With further potential to Extended (subject to planning permission)
- No Upward Chain
- UPVc Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

OFFERS AROUND: **£100,000**

**Circuit Close Willenhall** **NEW**



- Modern apartment
- One Bedroom
- Allocated parking
- EPC - C, Double Glazing

OFFERS AROUND: **£45,000**

**Rowan Road Walsall**



- Extended Semi Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms With En-suite To Master
- Two Reception Rooms
- Good Size Enclosed Rear Garden, Kitchen & Utility

OFFERS AROUND: **£225,000**

**Tarn Close Willenhall** **NEW**



- 3 Bedroom end terrace house
- New Build
- Double glazing
- Central heating

Viewing: **£169,950**

**Bruford Road Bilston** **NEW**



- Middle Terrace Residence
- No Upward chain
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Reception Hall,

Viewing: **£82,950**

**Bruford Road Bilston** **NEW**



- End Terrace Residence
- No Upward chain
- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Reception Hall,

Viewing: **£82,950**

**Catherine Road Bilston** **NEW**



- Semi Detached Requiring Improvements
- No Upward Chain
- Double Glazing And Central Heating
- Entrance and Hallway,

offers Viewing: **£89,950**

**Dimmocks Avenue Bilston** **NEW**



- 3 bedroom semi detached house
- no upward chain
- lounge
- kitchen/diner,

offers Viewing: **£125,000**

**Lane Street Bilston** **NEW**



- Detached Bungalow with No Upward Chain
- Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Porch • Reception Hall
- Lounge & Cottage Style Kitchen,

Offer in the region of Viewing: **£190,000**

**Rathbone Close Bilston** **REDUCED**



- 2 Bedroom ground floor flat
- No upward chain
- Lounge
- Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: **£57,000**

**King Street Bilston** **REDUCED**



- 3 bedroom detached house
- Complete refurbishment
- Downstairs shower room and wc
- EPC - D, Good size lounge

OFFERS AROUND: **£155,000**

**Rosehill Willenhall** **REDUCED**



- Edwardian 4 Bedroom family house
- Retains character and further potential
- Lounge open to kitchen
- EPC - F, Dining room

OFFERS AROUND: **£179,000**

**Pool Hayes Lane Willenhall** **REDUCED**



- 3 Bedroom detached house
- Refurbished
- No upward chain
- Downstairs wc

OFFERS AROUND: **£160,000**

**Bath Street Dudley**



- Well Presented End Terrace Residence
- No Upward Chain
- Gas Central Heating & UPVc Double Glazing
- EPC Rating D, Entrance Porch

OFFERS AROUND: **£126,500**

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**Castlecroft Road Bilston**



- End Terrace Residence with No Upward Chain
- UPVc Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Reception Hall
- EPC Rating C, Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: **£95,000**

**Brunel Court Bilston**



- Semi Detached Residence with No Upward Chain
- UPVc Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Reception Hall
- EPC Rating TBC, Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: **£92,500**

**Loxdale Sidings Bilston**



- 1 Bedroom modern flat
- No upward chain
- Lounge
- Bedroom

OFFERS AROUND: **£57,950**

**Earl Street Bilston**



- End Terrace Residence
- UPVc Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
- Reception Hall
- EPC Rating E, Lounge • Dining Room

OFFERS AROUND: **£98,000**



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[tv.pauldubberley.co.uk](http://tv.pauldubberley.co.uk)

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# Link-detached in popular location for £162,500



**AN appealing extended link-detached property in the popular location of Burton Manor in Shannon Road, Stafford, is for sale through Your Move at £162,500.**

It has a porch, an entrance hallway with stairs off, a front facing lounge with a fireplace, a kitchen with a gas hob with extractor fan over and electric oven.

There is a rear facing dining room with laminate flooring, three well proportioned bedrooms, and a bathroom with a bath with a shower over.

A block paved driveway provides off-road parking, and there is a single garage and garden.

For further information about the property contact Your Move on 01785 257100 or visit [www.your-move.co.uk](http://www.your-move.co.uk)



## Apartment with full ownership potential

THIS charming first-floor one-bedroom apartment in Woodford End, Cannock, is for sale through Goodchilds at £60,000 with no chain.

With double glazing, electric heating and allocated parking it lies within a modern development and has potential for shared and full ownership.

Presenting a terrific opportunity for first time buyers and investors alike, viewings are strongly advised.

In brief the property comprises of an entrance hall, living room, a kitchen with white units, one bedroom and a bathroom. The property also benefits from an intercom security system.

For further information about the property contact Goodchilds on 01543 500011 or visit [www.goodchilds-uk.com](http://www.goodchilds-uk.com)



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**WALSALL  
MAY STREET**

- Pleasant terraced property
- Three bedroom
- Gas central heating
- Two reception rooms
- Fitted kitchen
- Bathroom with shower
- Garden at rear
- Council Tax band A

£525 PCM

EPC: D



**WALSALL  
WELL LANE**

- Three bedroom terraced
- Two reception rooms
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed windows
- Re-fitted kitchen
- Garage space at rear
- Council Tax band A

£525 PCM

EPC: D



**WALSALL  
CARL STREET**

- Newly re-furnished traditional terraced
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Newly refitted kitchen
- Newly refitted bathroom
- Gas central heating
- Rear garden
- Council Tax band: A

£450 PCM

EPC: F



**LEAMORE  
BEATRICE STREET**

- Town house style property
- Three bedrooms
- UPVC Double glazed windows
- Gas central heating
- Fitted kitchen
- Downstairs W.C
- Council Tax band A

£525 PCM

EPC: E

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OF THE RENT IS REQUIRED



**WEDNESFIELD  
LAWRENCE AVENUE**

- Well presented semi detached
- Three bedrooms
- Lounge
- Separate dining room
- Off road parking
- Council Tax band B

£625 PCM

EPC: D



**WILLENHALL  
REGENT STREET**

- Immaculate mid terrace property
- Two bedrooms
- Lounge and dining rooms
- First floor bathroom
- Council Tax band A

£525 PCM

EPC: D



**ASHMORE PARK  
PARRY ROAD**

- Three bedroom semi detached
- Popular Wednesfield location
- Lounge and separate dining room
- Family bathroom
- Council Tax band A

£500 PCM

EPC: D



**WOLVERHAMPTON  
LOWER PRESTWOOD RD**

- Mid terrace property
- Convenient for shops
- Two bedrooms
- GCH & double glazing
- Council Tax band A

£500 PCM

EPC: C



**WILLENHALL  
WORCESTER ROAD**

- Three bed semi detached
- Modern kitchen
- Luxury Bathroom
- GCH & Double glazing
- Council Tax band B

£550 PCM

EPC: E

**bloxwich@skitts.net 01922 478 104**

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#### WILLENHALL BILSTON LANE

- Greatly Extended 4 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Generous Plot, DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL STPP
- Large Lounge

£280,000



NEW

- Dining Room
- Impressive Kitchen
- Bathroom, Shower Room
- 28ft Games Room



#### WILLENHALL RAVENSCROFT ROAD

- Impressive 3 Bedroom Detached Family Residence
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Spacious Kitchen/diner

£245,000



NEW

- Utility Room With Wc
- Bathroom, En-suite
- Two Garages
- Large Corner Plot Gardens



#### WILLENHALL BIRCHFIELDS ROAD

- Well Presented 3 Bedroom Traditional Semi Detached In Premier Position
- Extended Kitchen
- Two Reception Rooms

£235,000



NEW

- Conservatory
- Bathroom • Garage
- Pleasant Garden • Off Road Parking
- NO UPWARD CHAIN



#### BENTLEY MONMOUTH ROAD

- Much Improved 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Lounge, 26ft Sun Room
- Re-fitted Kitchen

£160,000



NEW

- Re-fitted Shower Room
- Storage Room/utility
- Double Glaz, Gas CH, Drive
- Delightful Gardens



#### NEW INVENTION SQUIRES GROVE

- Well Presented Modern 2 Bedroom End Terrace
- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing

£130,000



NEW

- 2 En Suites
- Large Lounge With Dining Area
- Wc, • Garage, Allocated Parking Space
- Gardens



#### BENTLEY EWART ROAD

- Much Improved Spacious End Terrace
- Popular Location
- Hall, Lounge, Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen

£125,000



NEW

- Three Impressive Bedrooms
- Shower Room With Separate Wc
- Rear Gardens, Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating System



#### WILLENHALL KINVER AVENUE

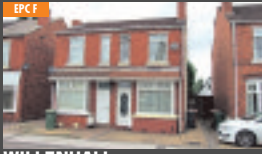
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached Property On A Popular Road
- Hall, Lounge
- Dining Kitchen, Guests Wc

£120,000



NEW

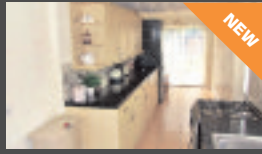
- Bathroom, Double Glazing
- Gas CH, Driveway
- Rear Gardens
- No Upward Chain



#### WILLENHALL ASHMORE LAKE ROAD

- Beautifully Presented Semi Detached Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Impressive 24ft Kitchen

£110,000



NEW

- 2 Large Bedrooms
- Superb Newly Fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Ch • Excellent Gardens



#### WILLENHALL FISHER STREET

- Period Semi Detached Property
- Convenient Location
- No Upward Chain
- Hall, Two Reception Rooms

£90,000



NEW

- Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Gardens



#### NEW INVENTION ESSINGTON RD

- Ground Floor Apartment In Popular Development
- Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Bedroom

£69,950



NEW

- Bathroom, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing
- Communal Gardens And Parking, No Upward Chain



#### ESSINGTON SNEYD LANE

- Superb Four Bedroom Detached with Garage
- Open plan lounge, dining room
- Family room • Refitted breakfast kitchen
- Bathroom • En-suite • D Glazing • Gas CH

£340,000



#### ESSINGTON SNEYD LANE

- Attractive Extended 4 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Extended Lounge • Conservatory
- Dining Room • Breakfast Kitchen • Gas CH
- D Glaz • Large Driveway • Delightful Gardens

OFFERS OVER £230,000



#### COPPICE FARM LOCHALSH GROVE

- Superb 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen, Conservatory
- Shower Room, Double Glazing, Gas CH
- Gardens, Driveway, Garage, No Chain

£220,000



#### SHORT HEATH WALKERS FOLD

- Modern 3 Bedroom Semi Detached Positioned On An Excellent Plot With Potential To Extend (STPP)
- Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazing, Gas CH, Driveway

OFFERS OVER £129,995



#### WILLENHALL WOLVERHAMPTON RD WEST

- Superb Modern Style 3 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Hall • Lounge • Dining Kitchen
- Re-Fitted Bathroom • Double Glazing • Gas CH
- Two Allocated Parking Spaces • Gardens

£125,000



#### WILLENHALL SPINDLE TREE RISE

- Impeccably Appointed Modern End Terrace
- Hall • Guests Wc, Lounge, Impressive Kitchen
- Excellent Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Double Width Driveway, Gardens, Gas Ch, D Glaz

OFFERS OVER £120,000



#### WILLENHALL BRICK KILN STREET

- Well Presented Semi Detached Property
- Hall, Lounge, Large Kitchen, G Floor Bathroom
- Three Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating System
- Double Glazing, Driveway, Rear Gardens

£109,950



#### WILLENHALL CLOTHIER STREET

- Renovated 3 Bedroom Mid Terrace Property
- Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom
- Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating System
- Rear Gardens, No Upward Chain

£95,000



#### HORTON PLACE DARLASTON

- 3 BEDROOM TOWN HOUSE PROPERTY
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZING
- BATHROOM & SHOWER ROOM
- GENEROUS REAR GARDEN

GUIDE PRICE £70,000



#### SHORT HEATH CHAUCER AVENUE

- Spacious Two Bedroom Mid Terrace Property
- Through Lounge / Dining Room • Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom • Gas Central Heating System
- Double Glazing • Front & Rear Gardens

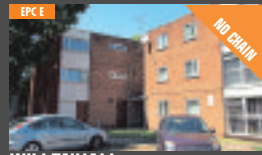
£88,000



#### WILLENHALL WELLINGTON PLACE

- Well Appointed First Floor Duplex Maisonette
- Allocated Parking Spaces
- Lounge with Dining Area • Large Bedroom
- Fitted Kitchen • Bathroom • Double Glazing

OFFERS OVER £80,000



#### WILLENHALL SHEPPELL GREEN

- Spacious Well Presented Second Floor Flat
- Hall, Large Lounge, Spacious Kitchen
- Two Excellent Bedrooms, Re-fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing, Garage, No Chain

£75,000



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46 High Road, Lane Head, Willenhall, WV12 4JQ



## CASH OFFERS ONLY



**ST ANNES RD, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed Mid Terrace Comprises Of Hall, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Ground Floor Bathroom, D/G. G/C/H. INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY TENANTED AT £540 PCM.

£74,995

## BEECHDALE



**KELVIN ROAD, WALSALL**  
Two Bed End Town House Comprises Of Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Utility, Two Double Bedrooms And Family Bathroom, UPVC D/Glazing, C/ Heating, Front And Rear Garden.

£80,000

## NEW INVENTION



**SQUIRES GR, W-HALL**  
Modern Two Bed First Floor Apartment Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge With Juliette Balcony, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Master Bedroom With En-Suite, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazed & E/Heating.

£89,995

## WILLENHALL



**BLOXWICH RD SOUTH, W-HALL**  
Two Bed Semi Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner, Family Bathroom, UPVC Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Front & Rear Garden & Driveway.

£100,000

## BENTLEY



**MORRIS AVE, WALSALL**  
Three Bed Semi Detached Comprises Of Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Kitchen, Inner Hallway, Utility Area, W/G, And A Family Bathroom With Part D/Glazing And C/ Heating.

£109,995

## BENTLEY



**EDINBURGH AVE, WALSALL**  
Two Bed Semi. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen & Ground Floor W.C. 1st Floor Bathroom, D/G & G/C/H. Off Road Parking To The Front & Enclosed Garden To The Rear.

£110,000

## SHORT HEATH



**SHERLOCK CLOSE, WILLENHALL**  
Well Presented Two Bed End Townhouse. Comprises Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Spacious Lounge, Conservatory, Bathroom, D/G, G/CH, Parking To The Fore, Enclosed Garden To The Rear

£119,950

## ROCKET POOL



**MELDON DRIVE, BILSTON**  
Three Bed Mid Townhouse Comprising Entrance Hall, Through Lounge/ Diner, Fitted Kitchen, Conservatory, Family Bathroom, Extensive Rear Gardens & Block Paved Driveway To Fore. Must View!

£119,995

## WILLENHALL



**LISTER STREET, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed End Town House. Comprises Of Porch, Inner Hall, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Generous Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Sun Room & Family Bathroom, D/G. G/C/H. O/R/P To The Fore & Enclosed Garden To Rear.

£119,995

## WILLENHALL



**BIRCHES RISE, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed Mid Town House. Comprises Of Entrance Porch, Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen/Diner And Family Bathroom. D/G. G/C/H. Gardens To Front & Rear. Allocated Off Road Parking Space. VIEWING ADVISED!

O.I.R.O £120,000

## WOODLANDS



**OAKEN DRIVE, WILLENHALL**  
Two Bed Semi Situated On A Generous Corner Plot. Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner, Bathroom, Majority D/G, G/C/H. Driveway & Detached Garage To Front/Side & Garden To Rear.

£125,000

## WILLENHALL



**QUEENS LEA, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed End Town House Having Hall, Through Lounge, Modern Fitted Kitchen Opening Into A Further Spacious Kitchen/ Utility/Dining Area, Ground Floor W.C, D/G & C/H.

£129,995

## REEDSWOOD



**BASALT CLOSE, WALSALL**  
Modern Three Bed End Town House. Comprises Of Kitchen, Lounge/ Diner, En-Suite To Master Bed & Bathroom, Garage, Garden To The Front With Off Road Parking & An Fully Enclosed Rear Garden.

£129,995

## BRACKENDALE



**PATTENHAM CL, W-HALL**  
Three Storey Town House, Having Lounge, Fitted Kitchen Diner, Ground Floor W.C And Conservatory. Three Double Bedrooms, Master Having En-Suite, Family Bathroom, D/G And Gas C/H, Gated Development.

£144,995

## PORTOBELLO



**DILLOWAYS LANE, W-HALL**  
Two, Two Bedroom Self Contained Flats Both Having Hallway, Lounge, Fitted kitchen And Family Shower Room. Both Flats Also Benefit From D/Glazing & C/ Heating.

£145,000

## KINGFISHER ESTATE



**WELLAND GROVE, W-HALL**  
Three Bedroom Detached Comprises Of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazed, G/C/H. Gardens To Front & Rear, Driveway & Garage.

£145,995

## WEDNESFIELD



**BROAD LANE SOUTH, W-FIELD**  
Three Bed Semi Comprising Of Entrance Porch, Through Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Rear Garden And Driveway To Front And Side.

£149,995

## BROADLANDS ESTATE



**ROCKLAND GDNS, W-HALL**  
Three Bed Semi Comprises Of Entrance Porch, Inner Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Separate Dining Room And Conservatory And A Family Bathroom, D/Glazing And C/ Heating Throughout

£157,995

## THE HAYES



**CASTLE DRIVE, WILLENHALL**  
Three/Four Bed Link Detached. Comprises Of Lounge, Kitchen/ Diner, Ground Floor W.C & Bedroom. Three First Floor Bedrooms & Jack And Jill Bathroom. D/G. G/C/H. Driveway & Garage. Rear Garden.

£163,000

## WOODLANDS



**HUNTS LANE, WILLENHALL**  
Extended Four Bed Semi Detached. Comprises Of Fitted Kitchen, Spacious Lounge/ Diner, Conservatory, Ground Floor Bedroom, Bathroom, D/G, G/C/H, Off Road Parking. Generous Plot.

£165,000

## COPPICE FARM



**HIGHMOOR CL, W-HALL**  
Three Bed Detached. Comprises Of Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing, C/Heating, Garage, Block Paved Driveway And Enclosed Rear Garden.

£169,995

## WILLENHALL



**BILSTON LANE, WILLENHALL**  
Three Bed Detached. Comprises Of Porch, Hall, Guest W.C, Lounge, Spacious Kitchen/ Diner, Veranda & Family Bathroom. Maj D/G. G/C/H. Garden To Fore. O/R/P. Extensive Gardens To Rear.

£185,000

## SHORT HEATH



**WALKERS FOLD, W-HALL**  
Four Bed Detached Lounge, Separate Dining Room, Modern Fitted Kitchen, Separate Utility, Ground Floor W.C, Four Bedrooms, En-suite, Refitted Family Bathroom, D/ Glazing, C/Heating And Integral Garage.

£239,995

## SHORT HEATH



**BLOXWICH RD NTH, W-HALL**  
Detached Three Bed Having Entrance Porch, Hall, Lounge With Inglenook Fireplace, Separate Sitting Room, Conservatory, Fitted Kitchen, Galliered Landing, Family Bathroom, Garage, D/Glazing, C/ Heating.

£265,000

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### The Hayes Willenhall



Offers around £145,000

A two bedroom semi-detached bungalow having the benefit of no upward chain, UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. The property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, refitted kitchen, garage, two bedrooms, family bathroom, good sized attractive rear garden and off road parking to the front. Awaiting energy rating.

### Fallowfield Road Walsall



Offers around £475,000

A rare opportunity to purchase a unique, one off design, brand new, executive, four bedroom detached family home in a much sought after estate. With the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating, underfloor heating, CCTV, fitted intruder alarm. This ideal family home further comprises, porch, reception hall, spacious through lounge, fitted kitchen, utility room, guest W.C./bathroom, 4x double bedrooms, 2 x en-suites and family bathroom, integral garage, driveway with electric gate, secure off road parking. Estimated completion is set for the end November 2015. Awaiting energy rating.

### Hall Street Darlaston



Offers around £85,000

Located on the top floor this lovely apartment has the benefit of no upward chain, UPVC double glazing and electric central heating. The property further comprises, communal entrance with intercom, reception hall, modern open plan lounge/diner/kitchen (with washer dryer, fridge, oven & hob). Two double bedrooms, bathroom with shower and communal parking space. Energy rating C

### Water Reed Grove Bloxwich



Offers around £87,000

A superb modern two bedroom top floor apartment having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, central heating and no upward chain. This lovely property further comprises, reception hall with intercom, lounge, modern fitted kitchen, 2 bedrooms, family bathroom with shower, communal gardens and allocated parking space. Energy Rating C..

### Aldis Road Walsall



Offers around £119,995

A recently refurbished two bedroom semi detached property having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating and no upward chain. This lovely property further comprises, reception hall, through lounge, fitted kitchen, two double bedrooms, family bathroom and front and rear garden. Energy rating D.

### Bloxwich Road Walsall



Offers around £110,000

A fully refurbished and upgraded 3 bedroom middle terrace having the benefit of fresh decoration, new carpets, UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This well presented family home further comprises lounge, dining room, re-fitted kitchen with built in oven and hob, re-fitted ground floor bathroom, three bedrooms, Refitted W.C (on first floor) and rear garden. Energy rating E.

### Ashtree Road Pelsall



Offers around £200,000

A lovely three bedroom detached cottage having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This ideal family home further comprises, porch, lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen, conservatory, ground floor shower room, three bedrooms (master is attic conversion with ensuite), rear gardens, detached garage with ample off road parking for several vehicles. Energy rating E..uite), rear gardens, detached garage with ample off road parking for several vehicles. Awaiting energy rating.

### Corn Mill Close Walsall



Offers around £47,500

●●50% Shared property, with option to buy the full 100%●● A well presented 2 bedroom semi detached property having the benefit of double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. This lovely property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, refitted kitchen/diner, two double bedrooms, refitted family bathroom, front and rear gardens and off road parking. Energy rating D.

### Bentley Drive Walsall



Offers around £117,500

A superb, improved and upgraded two bedroom semi detached property having the benefit of UPVC double and gas central heating. This lovely well presented family home further comprises, lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen, refitted bathroom, two double bedrooms and front and rear gardens. Energy rating D.

### Market Square Wolverhampton



Offers around £67,995

●●Suit landlord or first time buyer (Previously let out for £450pcm)●● A well presented one bedroom modern City Centre apartment located on the fourth floor and being in the heart of Wolverhampton City Centre with the benefit of no upward chain, security intercom and lift to the first floor, double glazing and electric central heating. The property further comprises, lounge, double bedroom, luxury bathroom with shower, fitted kitchen and secure allocated parking. EPC rating of C.

### Cottage Lane Burntwood



Offers around £185,000

A rare opportunity to purchase a unique detached dormer bungalow with plenty of character and charm and having the benefit of UPVC double glazing and gas central heating. This splendid cottage is located in a quiet cul-de-sac and further comprises, reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen diner, 2 x ground floor double bedrooms, family bathroom, utility room, 1st floor master bedroom with ensuite shower room, off road parking for several vehicles and detached double garage, good size rear garden with patio. Energy rating E.

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### Darwin Road Bloxwich



Offers around £74,950

A two bedroom end of terrace family home having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The property further comprises, reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, utility room, two double bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens. Energy rating D.

### Yale Road St Thomas Lawns



Offers around £90,000

A well presented first floor 2 bedroom apartment having the benefit of UPVC double glazing, gas central heating and no upward chain. The property is currently let out at £2475pcm and further comprising, reception hall, lounge, modern fitted kitchen with integrated appliances 2 bedrooms, family bathroom and allocated parking space. Energy rating B.

### Mistletoe Drive Tamebridge



Offers around £110,000

A two bedroom end of terrace family home having the benefit of double glazing and gas central heating. Located in a sort after estate in a quiet cul-de-sac the property further comprises reception hall, lounge, fitted kitchen, two double bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens and two parking spaces. Energy rating D.

### Head Office

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West Midlands WS1 1RA

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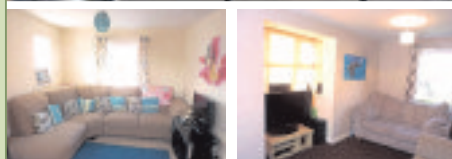




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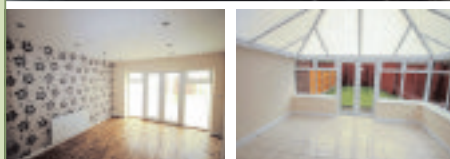
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Stamping Way, Walsall

- Detached Four Bedroom Three Storey
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite Shower Room
- Three Further Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Cloakroom W.C.
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Detached Garage
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £850



Wood Lane, Willenhall

- New Build Three Bed Townhouse
- Entrance Hall
- Downstairs W.C.
- Lounge with Patio Doors
- Conservatory
- Master Bedroom with En-suite
- Family Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Garage
- Sorry No DHSS, Pets, Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £695



- Parkhouse Grove, Walsall
- Two Bedroom Apartment
  - Master Ensuite
  - Popular Aldridge Location
  - Must Be Viewed!
  - Sorry No DHSS.

Monthly Rental Of £575



- The Briars, Walsall
- Modern Third Floor Apartment
  - Sought After "Briars" Development
  - Large Lounge Diner
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Two Bedrooms - Master Ensuite Shower Room
  - Communal Grounds
  - Allocated Parking

Monthly Rental Of £550



- Fountains Road, Mossley
- Three Bedroom Terraced House
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Family Bathroom
  - Off Road Parking
  - DHSS Accepted
  - Conservatory!
  - Largely Extended

Monthly Rental Of £550



- Slaney Road, Walsall
- Two Bedroom First Floor Flat
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Family Bathroom
  - Garage
  - Off Road Parking

Monthly Rental Of £450



- Walker Road, Walsall
- Two Bedroom 2nd Floor Apartment
  - Large Open Plan Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - En-Suite Shower Room
  - Family Bathroom
  - DHSS Accepted, No Pets or Smokers
  - Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating
  - Off Road Parking

Monthly Rental Of £450



- Waterfront Way, Walsall
- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
  - Open Plan Lounge & Kitchen
  - Family Bathroom
  - Allocated Parking
  - Close to all amenities & near canal
  - Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers

Monthly Rental Of £425



- Shepherd Drive, Willenhall
- One Bedroom First Floor Maisonette
  - Entrance Stairway/Landing
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Shower Room
  - Sorry No DHSS, Pets or Smokers
  - Shared Rear Garden

Monthly Rental Of £400



- Usk Close, Walsall
- One Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
  - Self Contained
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Bathroom with Shower
  - DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £400



- Bloxwich Road, Walsall
- MAIN BUS ROUTE LOCATION
  - Well Presented One Bedroom Flat
  - Large Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Double Bedroom
  - Off Road Parking
  - DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £380



- Harden Close, Walsall
- Two Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
  - Lounge
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Family Bathroom
  - Front and Rear Gardens
  - DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £350



- Barracks Lane, Walsall
- One Bedroom Flat above Retail Premises
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen
  - Shower Room
  - Electric Heating
  - DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £300

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**Judges Comments:** The directors' knowledge is exemplary and this is filtered down to the rest of the team. Customers using Goodchids can feel assured that they're in good hands.

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LET!

- Water Reed Grove, Walsall
- Three Bedroom Fully Furnished House
  - Cloakroom / WC
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen/Diner
  - Family Bathroom & Ensuite Shower Room
  - Viewing Essential

Monthly Rental Of £725



LET!

- Poole Crescent, Walsall
- Three Bedroom Semi-Detached
  - Entrance Porch/Hallway
  - Through Lounge/Dining Room
  - Fitted Kitchen
  - Conservatory
  - Family Bathroom

Monthly Rental Of £650



LET!

- Cherry Brook, Cannock
- Modern Family Home
  - THREE Bedrooms
  - Family Bathroom, Ensuite & Guest Cloaks
  - Lounge
  - Kitchen Diner
  - Front & Rear Gardens

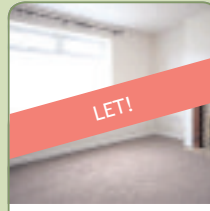
Monthly Rental Of £650



LET!

- Bridge Road, Walsall
- Large Semi Detached Home
  - Two Reception Rooms
  - Modern Kitchen
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  - Double Glazing & Gas Central Heating

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## Audi's A5 cabriolet does all you need

By Graham Breeze

**When Carly Simon sang “Nobody Does It Better” she could well have been referring to the Audi A5 Cabriolet.**

Her version of Carol Bayer Sagar’s famous hit was the theme tune to the 1977 Bond film The Spy Who Loves Me and the secret agent would have looked as at home in this open top as he does in his beloved Aston Martin.

Because nobody does it better in this sector than Audi and the A5 Cabriolet is a class act with looks, style and quality matched by punchy performance levels.

If open-top motoring appeals then you just have to take a look at the A5 before making a final choice.

You can’t help but be impressed – despite Audi choosing to stick to a cloth roof for this model.

I could have spent hours simply pressing the button to watch a brilliant piece of engineering technology in action, as the boot opened and closed to allow the soft-top to fold itself up or away in a matter of seconds – even with the car still moving.

It’s German engineering at its best and typically Audi.

I am a little surprised that Audi sticks with the soft-top while most other manufacturers have gone down a different route.

It means you can expect wind noise on entry level models but the three litre V6 on test came with extra insulation to keep noise levels down.

Audi has developed a reputation as sector leaders when it comes to the cabin and this model comes with all the high-tech kit you would expect, together with a very comfortable driving position – helped by steering wheel height and rake control at push of a button.

### Access

It’s also a true four-seater. It may look tight in the back but once you’re seated you realise how far back you actually sit and there’s easily enough leg room.

Very wide doors help with access – but not with parking.

A colleague warned me to expect inconsistent handling but it wasn’t something I encountered.

In fact the A5 did all I asked of it with a choice of three settings for suspension and steering.

Any criticism of the ride would be going too far really thanks to Quattro permanent all-wheel-drive with self-levelling central diff and ESP.

On test was a 3.0 V6 TDi Quattro S-tronic with an on-the-road price of £44,240 which went up to £47,825 with the fitted extras which included an interior light package, hill-hold assist, a music interface, heated seats all-round, lane assist warning, Audi phone connect and a great Bang & Olufsen sound system to keep Carly bellowing out clearly.

I wouldn’t question Audi’s claim of a top speed of 155mph and you get 0-62mph in 6.3seconds.

CO2 levels are acceptable for a car of this level at 154g/km but the outstanding feature is a claim of 47.9mpg on the combined cycle.

Running costs are also kept down by Audi’s LongLife service agreement of 19,000 miles or two years.

Despite the roof folding arrangements there was surprisingly enough roof for the golf clubs in the boot and ample space for a set of travel bags for that weekend away.

Every A5 Cabriolet comes with stability control, and front and side airbags that cover the head and chest. If sensors detect the car is about to roll over, metal bars pop up behind the rear seats to protect passengers.

And although the soft-top is obviously less secure than hard-top opposition, deadlocks are fitted as standard.

The A5 Cabriolet oozes class and it was disappointing to see it disappearing off the drive on its journey back to Audi-land.



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# A subtle makeover for BMW's 3 Series

By Matt Joy

It's that time again, when all the compact premium saloon rivals bring out their new, improved weapons. Ready yourself for the crowd's favourite - the BMW 3 Series.

Listen carefully, because the new bits of the 3 Series may not be obvious. This is a mid-life lift rather than a brand-new car, so from the outside there are resculpted bumpers, new lights - including LED daytime running lights and tail lights - plus new exhaust pipes, depending on your engine. Inside, there's new cabin materials and some new equipment, but under the skin there's some new engines, plus revised suspension and steering, all designed to keep it on top of the dynamic tree.

At first glance, you're unlikely to notice it's a 2015 3 Series that's just barged in front of the traffic queue; this is a very subtle makeover. The front bumper has wider vents underneath, the rearranged headlights are also designed to give the car greater width on the road, and the rear LED lights are certainly smarter. This is still a car that looks best with the right wheel and colour combination, and effectively looks like all the other 3 Series models already on the road - but that's not necessarily a bad thing.

There's no more space in the new 3 Series than there was before, but for a car of this size, it copes with people and their luggage well. Front seat passengers are best catered for, with head and legroom a little more restricted in the rear, although normal-sized adults will be comfortable. One small, if notable improvement, is the new cup holder ahead of the gear lever, which is more substantial than before. The boot remains a useful 480 litres and is easily accessed through a decent aperture.

Although there are several new engines in the range, the only examples available to drive were 340i models, which gets a new 3.0-litre twin turbocharged six-cylinder unit. With 322bhp available, as well as a 332lb/ft of torque, there's no doubt it is absurdly fast; 0-62mph takes 5.1 seconds, which is as quick as an M3 from 10 years ago. Match it with impressive automatic transmission and you get quick shifts when required, and smoothness when you're not in a hurry, it's also more economical.

## Responsive

The steering and suspension changes have come about thanks to improved body mountings, allowing stiffer settings for the dampers and springs, without the ride quality suffering. This particular model had adaptive damping and steering too, but it remains a fun and responsive sports saloon to drive, although more humble models may offer better handling.

As part of the changes for 2015, all 3 Series models now get the basic satellite navigation system as well as BMW's emergency on-call service: if you have an accident where the airbags are deployed, the car will automatically call for assistance.

The entry SE model gets 17in alloy wheels, air conditioning, Bluetooth, DAB and cruise control, while this near top-spec 340i comes in M Sport guise only. Some of the options are on the pricey side, but the general equipment level is good value.

The chances of you buying a 3 Series are pretty high. It's featured in the list of top-10 best-sellers in the UK for several years on the spin for a variety of reasons. The BMW badge is one of course, as is its reputation for being a driver's car, which still holds true. It appeals to young, thrusting executives, the young and the old and anyone looking for a little bit of flash in their lives. That it has become ubiquitous, hasn't hurt its chances either, so expect to see a lot more new ones.

This car summed up in a single word: German.

If this car was a kitchen appliance, it would be one of those shiny chrome toasters that will toast eight slices of bread and buy flowers for your mother with ruthless efficiency.



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**Emissions:** 159g/km of CO<sub>2</sub>



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T.W Services

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## Roofing



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Every month, Goodall Village Hall, Sunday 30th August, 9.30am-3pm. Call Brian: 07923 538178.

ANTIQUE COLLECTORS FAIR  
Shenstone Village Hall, Barna Road, WS14 0LT. Sunday 30th Aug 9am-3pm, £1 entry. 07947271947

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All Caravans Wanted  
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**antiques**  
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# Boss Smith is enjoying the luxury of choice

DEAN SMITH claims Walsall's strength in depth now affords him the luxury of resting in-form players such as Rico Henry and Romaine Sawyers.

The Saddlers boss has changed his starting line-up and tactics in all four games this season, with the team remaining unbeaten, winning their last three.

Last week at Rochdale, he opted to leave Henry and Sawyers on the bench despite both impressing in their 2-0 win at Southend.

Smith said the decision was taken to ensure both remain in top condition through the season's busy opening weeks.

"Rico is an 18-year-old kid and he has started all three of the previous games," said Smith.

"I have got to be careful and look after these players, especially young players like him.

"He looked really fresh when he came on, Romaine too.

"I thought he was excellent at Southend on Saturday and it is a tough decision to leave out players like that. But now I have the luxury of putting out a strong team and knowing I can bring players off the bench."

Smith says players have bought into the new systems and accept they may find themselves moved in and out of the starting line-up, regardless of form.

"Everyone wants to play," added the manager. "They want to play but they understand it is a long season. They will get opportunities and they have to be ready when opportunities come.

"We want to be successful and the way we are going to be successful is by being a team."

Darlaston side keep good start going

**Darlaston 4 Wem Town 1**

DARLASTON maintained their good start to the West Midlands Division One campaign with a convincing win over Wem Town.

Player manager Mark Swann made six first team changes with recent new signings Darlaston old boy Bekir Halil, Matt Martin (Tipton Town) and Kieron Payne all making their debut for the 1874 club.

All three players made an impression and their overall contribution gave the home side the boost they were lacking last week.

Sam Giles opened the scoring for the hosts on 10 minutes when a Halil cross was headed past keeper Ryan Ford. Swann doubled the lead on the stroke of half-time with as close-range header.

Four minutes into the second half, the hosts cruised into a three-goal lead when Kurtis Perry fired home, but sloppy defending let Adam Jones reduce the arrears on 65 minutes. Halil made the game safe on 78 minutes.

Injury could end Boukari's Wolves career

LUCKLESS winger Razak Boukari's Wolves career is almost certainly over after he was ruled out for a year with a serious knee injury.

The 28-year-old – who is out of contract at Molineux next summer – ruptured his patella tendon when jumping for a header during an under-21 fixture against Fulham on Friday.

And the Togo winger has surely now been seen for the final time in a Wolves shirt, with his latest injury setback leaving him 'as low as he's ever been'.

Boukari had been injury-free since March after getting over a series of hamstring problems. Head of medical Phil Hayward said staff were gutted for the likeable winger.

"He's ruptured his patella tendon on his left side."

# Luke making first title defence



Andy Keates and Luke 'Cool Hands' Paddock

BLOXWICH light welterweight champion, Luke Paddock, will make his maiden title defence against Andy Keates at Walsall FC's Banks's Stadium next month.

The Stadium Suite is set to host Black Country Boxing's Home Turf show on Friday September 4 and Paddock, a local lad and Saddlers' fan, is eager to put on a show in front of a home crowd.

"It's quality, I don't know how else I can describe it," he smiled. "It's my home town of course but also my home town football club so I'm really looking forward to this one.

"This is definitely one for the fans. As much as it's me fighting I want this one to be for them. I just hope they come along and enjoy themselves.

Cool Hand produced a four round shutout over Liam Richards at the Walsall Town Hall in July and is looking to build on that when facing a familiar foe in Stoke's Andy Keates.

"It's just what I needed," he added. "Just to keep active if nothing else.

"It's not four rounds that I'm after. I want championship rounds but it was nice to tick over in front of my home fans again at Walsall Town Hall.

"A win over someone like Liam Richards, who's national level and has boxed for an English title, is a nice one to add to my card."

Only £30 standard tickets are still available, call 07881 376 512.

# Prop Bradshaw gets ball rolling

**Handsworth 17 Walsall 30**

**THERE was a suitably sombre atmosphere at the start of this first round county cup match as players and spectators paid their respects to two Handsworth stalwarts who have died.**

Life member and former president of club and county, Lewis Taylor and ex-player Richard Guest, who died rescuing two young girls in the sea off the North Wales coast.

When the game got underway the visitors, with the advantage of the slope, dominated most of the first half.

Powerful drives by the Walsall forwards resulted in prop forward Ian Bradshaw crashing over after seven minutes for the team's first score.

More forward drives and a fine run by winger Dave Pitt set up another score.

This time it was fly-half Connor Pitt who broke clear to score the try and the conversion.

The lead was extended on the half hour as Walsall turned over possession and then some good passing saw centre Jack Crowhurst go over.

There were two more tries before the whistle. Handsworth to their credit were keen to run the ball and they were rewarded with a try by Chris Bell.



**Walsall's prop forward Ian Bradshaw crashes through the Handsworth defence to score the first try of the game**

Simpson and fly half Connor Pitt will be a cause of great concern with the first league game to be played within a fortnight.

Meanwhile, next Sunday it's Walsall Rugby Club Annual Cancer Charity Day.

The action starts with a student's game at 1pm followed by a Walsall XV v Bloxwich at 2pm.

There will be numerous other attractions during the afternoon at their Delves Road ground.

The first Sunday in September heralds the start of Walsall's Junior Rugby training.

It's anticipated the rugby world cup will create a lot of interest in the sport and Walsall hope that they can find a star player for the future.

Youngsters who are interested in joining Walsall RFC should get parents to contact the club or Rob Hollis, the club coaching co-ordinator, on 0758 1039318 rob.wrfc@gmail.com.

# Bright start could mean good season

**Rochdale 1 Saddlers 2**

IF the first four games are anything to go by, this could be quite a season for Walsall.

Having already won a thriller at Nottingham Forest and impressed at Southend, they came out on top in a game at Rochdale which was above all else a superb advert for League One.

Manager Dean Smith, having challenged his side to find goals from every area, saw Andy Taylor scored just the sixth of his career to put them ahead midway through the second half, before Sam Mantom – thanks to a large deflection – doubled the lead with his second in four days five minutes later.

A Calvin Andrew goal 10 minutes from time ensured a fitting finish for a game where the pace rarely dropped below frenetic.

The Saddlers held on to continue their unbeaten start to the season and leapfrog the hosts in the early-season table.

Having switched things around successfully at Forest and Southend, Smith again made changes to his line-up with Milan Lalkovic and Kieron Morris – both dropped to the bench at Roots Hall – returning in place of Romaine Sawyers and Rico Henry.

Bradshaw had taken just eight minutes to break

**Football**

the deadlock at Southend, but here almost did it within 30 seconds.

Rochdale keeper Lillis failed to hold a deflected Lalkovic cross with Morris in close attendance and Bradshaw took possession, only for Lillis to recover and block his close-range effort.

It was the precursor for a lively opening spell, which also saw the hosts go close when Ian Henderson was inches from getting on the end of Donal McDermott's diagonal long ball.

**Dominance**

Gradually the hosts began to exert some dominance and it appeared the Saddlers had received a huge let-off when Henderson beat the offside trap and squared for an unmarked Rhys Bennett, who proceeded to blaze over from eight yards out.

An offside flag at least in part spared the Dale man's blushes, though it was not the only close shave for the Saddlers.

Peter Vincenti thought he had broken the deadlock, sliding in at the far post after Etheridge had

parried the substitute's shot. The Saddlers keeper then beat Donal McDermott in a foot race to tip the ball behind and avoid calamity after a James O'Connor header, intended for the stopper, had gone sailing over his head and toward the goal.

Suddenly on the back foot, the Saddlers responded by going ahead. Taylor burst into the box and fired home after a quick exchange with Lalkovic.

The hosts might have drawn level immediately had Etheridge not cleaned up his own mess after firing a clearance right to McDermott.

But, minutes later, the Saddlers had breathing space when Mantom let fly from 25 yards and his shot kicked up off a defender and over the unlucky Lillis.

Any hopes of a nerve-free finish evaporated 10 minutes from time when Henderson sent a header clattering off the bar and Andrew bundled the ball home from close range to re-energise the hosts.

Pushed back, the Saddlers had Paul Downing to thank for hacking clear a McDermott cross which threatened to bobble across the six-yard box.

It was backs-to-the-wall stuff, but Smith's men held out through five minutes of stoppage time.

# No escape for Wood in FA Cup replay

**FA Cup EP round replay Walsall Wood 1 Hinckley AFC 3**

WOOD almost pulled off the great escape, the team started the game with an inexperienced side, but when they lost Charlton Davies to a leg injury they really were up against it.

After just three minutes Leon Taylor collected a ball over the top of the Hinckley defence held the ball up cleverly before laying it back to Corey Currithers who set up drew Aiton to fire a first time effort just wide.

Disaster came for Wood on 13 minutes when Davies went in with a defender for a 50-50 challenge and was left lying in a heap.

After lengthy treatment Davies was replaced by Daniel Holgate.

After two hours, two minutes of entertaining play the deadlock was broken on 32 minutes.

Nathan Walker fired in a cross shot into the far corner of the net..

On the hour Wood were level, Shane O'Reilly crossed to the far post for Currithers to head back to Holgate to fire home.

On 84 minutes with both sides looking to extra time but super-sub Oliver Basham tucked the ball away.

Five minutes later it was Roberts setting up the clincher with a left wing incisive run, firing the ball across the face of the six yard box to find Marco Addagio to tuck the ball home from close range.

A real old fashioned cup tie, but Wood now have more squad members injured than they have fit, as the playing staff is decimated by the unprecedented list of casualties.

**Seesaw game sees the Pics share points**

**Rushall Olympic 2 Grantham Town 2**

RUSHALL shared the points at Grantham Town as they remain unbeaten in their 2015/16 Evo-Stik Premier campaign.

Lee Beeson's superb 25-yard free-kick gave Grantham the lead in the 25th minute after Gavin Caines committed a needless foul.

Their advantage lasted just three minutes as Jamie Smith played Alex Reid in down the line and the winger pulled the ball back for Luke Benbow to grab his second in as many games.

It should have been better for Rushall but Caines missed a penalty after Reid had been downed by Gingerbreads' keeper, Jake Turner.

Jack Duggan's header hit the bar from Kris Taylor's corner as Rushall tried to grab the lead before half-time.

It took the visitors just five minutes after the break to gain the lead, Taylor firing in a free-kick from 30 yards. But the Pics failed to hold on when Lee Ndlovu scored.

**Ward's treble lets Lockmen grab the win**

**Dudley Sports 4 Willenhall Town 5**

WILLENHALL came from behind to grab an injury-time winner for the second consecutive week in their West Midlands Premier success at Dudley Sports.

Only 35 seconds into the match Shepherd Machingautau put the home side in front but within minutes goals by Dan Bryson and Ryan Ward put the Lockmen ahead. Sports were back on level terms on 15 minutes through Josh Taylor.

Two long balls forward then caught out the Lockmen. First on 22 minutes Curtis Coching scored and two minutes later Stuart Hilman did likewise.

In the second half Ward headed one in. Then an unfortunate Tom Watkins headed an own goal. Ward then hit his hat-trick.



# Sport

## Luke is looking at first title defence

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## Walsall walk on from cup clash

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## Khalsa stop Star from shining

**Sporting Khalsa 3 Continental Star 0**  
GOALS from Mike Perks, Craig Bannister and Dave Meese helped Khalsa to a comfortable win over Walsall neighbours Continental Star.

The result was rarely in doubt from the seventh minute when Perks headed home a Craig Bannister free kick to give the home side the lead.

Continental Star keeper Ryan Cheshire produced a nifty save to deny Perks from a very similar position, not the last time he would frustrate Khalsa.

At the other end, James Pemberton in the Khalsa goal denied the lively Davion Hamilton with a sharp save down to his left after the striker – who had to leave the action before half time through injury – had left Jordan Upall in his wake.

Tes Robinson almost made it 2-0 from a Bannister corner on 25 minutes before the half settled into a scrappy affair with little in the way of notable action.

The second half was a different story with Khalsa coming out of the blocks quickly with Ricardo Reid forcing a fine save from Cheshire with a volley from range and Marvin Nisbett being denied from the rebound by an excellent robust challenge by Darren Green.

Khalsa did extend their lead seconds later, however, a low drive by Bannister from range flying in off the post.

The game was wrapped up four minutes later when Carlo Franco set up Dave Meese to grab his third goal since joining the club.

Reid – a former Continental Star player – then hit the post with a jaw dropping turn and shot from the edge of the area.

With the seconds ticking down, Pemberton ensured Khalsa kept a clean sheet.

## We fear no one, says Lalkovic after beating Sky Blues

WALSALL are scared of no-one according to Milan Lalkovic.

Saturday's 2-1 triumph at the Banks' was the Saddlers' fourth win in a row in all competitions – only the second time in eight years they have achieved such a run.

Lalkovic, who starred in the win over the previously unbeaten Sky Blues is confident they can continue the winning streak.

"We are really pleased with what is happening," said the winger.

Coventry had arrived top of the table and boasting the division's only 100 per cent winning record. But they departed deservedly beaten by the Saddlers, for whom Lalkovic was instrumental.

A return of ten points from the opening four games represents the Saddlers' best start to a campaign in the third tier for 15 years and only Gillingham's 2-0 win over Wigan prevented Smith's men from going top – something Lalkovic admitted some disappointment at.

"I saw the stats on the internet it would be the first time in 15 years (Walsall have been top)," he said.

## Wood take Lye down for first win

Walsall Wood 2 Lye Town 1

WOOD'S walking wounded recorded their first win of the season over high flying Lye with goals from Leon Taylor and Drew Aiton.

This was no fluke result however, as the Wood men could and should have been out of sight by half time.

Wood started well and could have gone ahead in the first minute, Leon Taylor raced into the centre of the box and was dispossessed before he could shoot and within seconds Daniel Holgate raced onto a ball into the middle of the box, keeper Jake Bedford with a full length brave block.

Football

They went ahead on 11 minutes, a run forward then an incisive ball into the right of the box by Harry Harris to put Drew Aiton clear, his hard low cross swept home at the far post by Leon Taylor.

Wood paid the penalty for missed chances when the visitors equalised with virtually their first attack on 32 minutes, James Spray ran at the Wood defence, his ball into the right of the box was collected at pace by Kevin Nickle, he went through two challenges to fire in.

The first action of the second half came on 52 minutes, Nickle making a right wing run, going through two challenges before Beckett stopped him with a superbly timed challenge.

Wood continued the pressure and a minute later Butlin released Aiton into the left of the box, his first time rising drive touched over by Bedford.

The keeper was powerless three minutes later. Aiton was strong as he powered into the left of the box, going through three challenges before showing great composure as he hammered the ball past the stranded Bedford to put Wood deservedly back ahead.

# SKIES ARE BLUE FOR SADDLERS

Walsall 2 Coventry 1

**IT has taken some time, but Walsall finally look a team who have found their finish.**

For the best part of two seasons, Dean Smith's Saddlers had just about everything else but could not shake a sense of underachievement due to their inability to turn attractive football into goals.

This campaign remains in its infancy, but already there is a different feel around the Banks' and on Saturday they recorded the finest result yet of an opening fortnight which had already contained several.

Coventry arrived boasting a 100 per cent record and League One's most feared striker in the shape of Adam Armstrong.

But they left deservedly beaten, with the latter having been kept firmly in check.

The margin of Walsall's victory might have only been one goal, but in truth it could and should have been more.

Thunderbolt

There was little the hosts could do about the one they did concede, a 25-yard thunderbolt from Jacob Murphy which brought the visitors back into the game after goals either side of half-time from Anthony Forde and Tom Bradshaw had put the Saddlers two to the good.

Last season, the brilliance and timing of Murphy's strike might have triggered a collapse – but this Walsall team are made of stronger stuff.

For the second time in the space of four days they responded to adversity, as they had at Rochdale at Tuesday, to finish what was, again a thrilling game in the ascendency.

How Smith must hope this form and verve can continue. Playing like this, his team look genuine title contenders, let alone play-off challengers. The manager would also be forgiven for buying a few extra lottery tickets, such has been the success rate of his decision-making thus far.

For the fourth game running he made two changes to the starting line-up with one of those drafted in, Forde, proceeding to break the deadlock.

All over the pitch there were performances to



Striker Tom Bradshaw celebrates after netting what turned out to be the winner against Coventry

delight the Saddlers boss. The sponsors gave their man of the match prize to Milan Lalkovic, a fair choice after a busy performance full of skill which saw him have a hand in both goals.

Yet there were numerous other candidates, from Sam Mantom to the excellent Jason Demetriou and Andy Taylor, the latter of whom was a whisker away from a second goal in four days with a long-range effort which clipped the post.

Just four league games in, there are, of course, reasons for caution. The next week could be defining if the Saddlers are able to cling on to Bradshaw, whose fifth of the season, three minutes after half-time, proved to be the difference.

The striker, along with skipper Adam Chambers, performs a key role in both formations employed by Smith this season and the manager has no obvious replacement, at present, for either man.

Bradshaw's goal, an instinctive, right-footed finish after visiting keeper Joe Burge had parried a Lalkovic shot, put the Saddlers two ahead after Forde had broken the deadlock by latching on to a through ball from the Slovakian and finishing smartly into the bottom corner.

Armstrong hit the bar with a free-kick as Coventry looked for a response. But the Saddlers stood firm to halt any comeback.

## Squad can get better, says Smith

BOSS Dean Smith believes Walsall are still some way short of their potential despite a blistering start to the season.

Saturday's 2-1 win over Coventry at the Banks' Stadium took their points tally to 10 from the opening four games – their best start to a campaign in the third tier since 2000/01 – when Ray Graydon went on to lead the Saddlers to promotion through the play-offs.

Smith, who again made changes to the starting line-up, admits players are currently brimming with confidence but insists the team still has room to grow.

"Our aim, always, is to win the league," he said. "At the start of the season, that is what you want to do."

"There is an awful lot of potential – just look at Reece Flanagan, who was unlucky to miss out on Saturday."

"He has been involved in the previous three games and we won all three but I left him out and it just shows we have some really good young players coming through."

"The more experience they get, the better they will get."

"The potential is there but it is only a word, they have to fulfil it. Game by game, we will try and get three points and see where it takes us."

Smith handed Anthony Forde a first start of the season and then watched the winger get the opener as the Saddlers inflicted a first defeat of the season on the Sky Blues.

"It's a big win but we know how early it still is in the season," said the manager when asked if his team had made a 'statement' with the result.

"It will give us a lot of belief and a lot of confidence going into the next games," added Smith.

## Jarryd misses out on semi-final spot

BROWNHILLS athlete Jarryd Dunn has missed out on a place in the 400m semi-finals at the World Athletics Championships in Beijing.

The 23-year-old clocked 45.49sec in the heats in China – not enough to win a place in the semis.

British team captain Martin Rooney, who was not initially selected for the 400m despite being the reigning European champion and made the team for Beijing on appeal, set a new personal best of 44.45sec to reach the semi-finals as a fastest loser after he finished fourth in his heat.

Rooney will be joined in the semi-finals by his compatriot Rabah Yousif who ran 45.24 to win his heat.

★★★



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